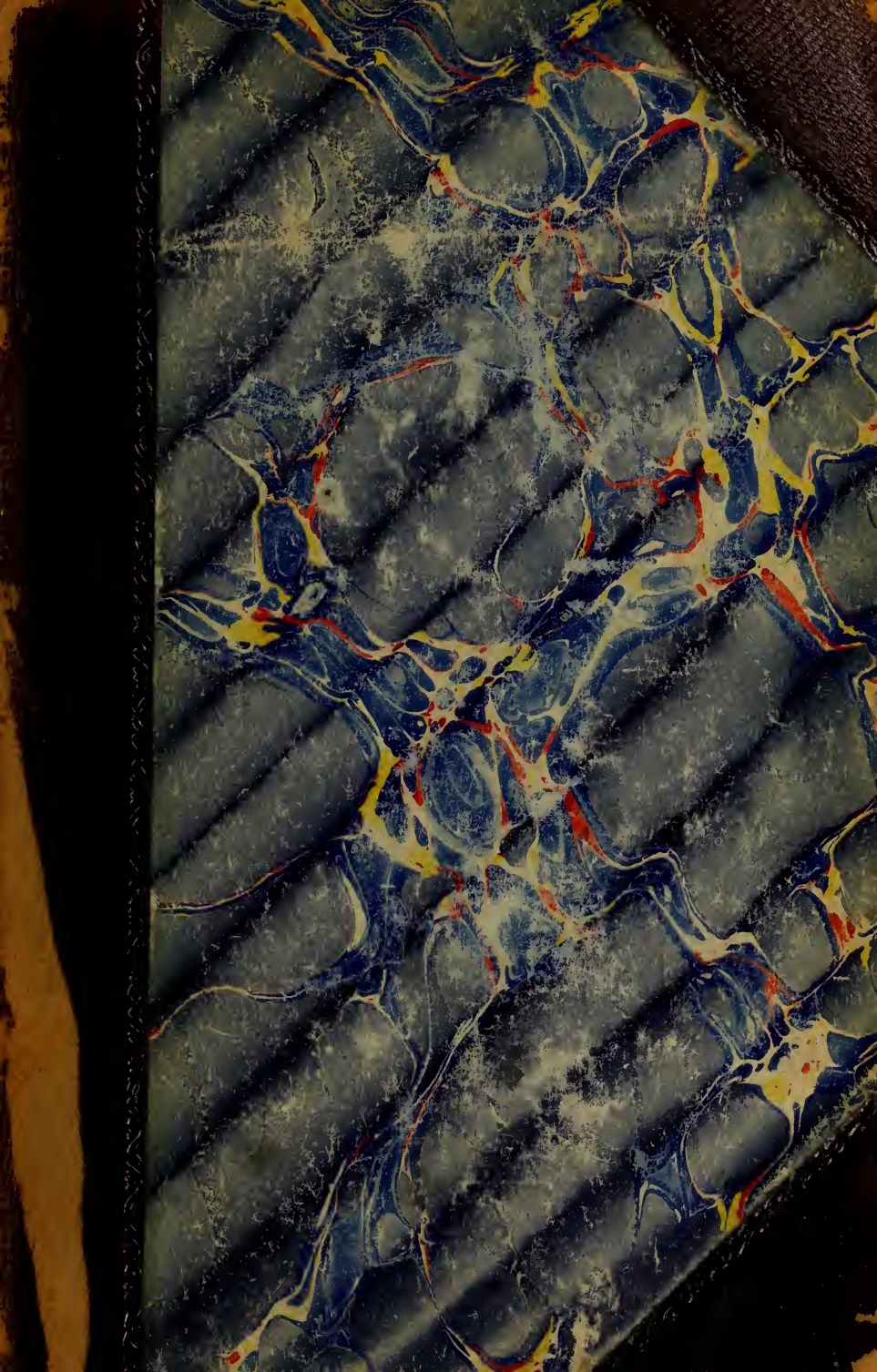
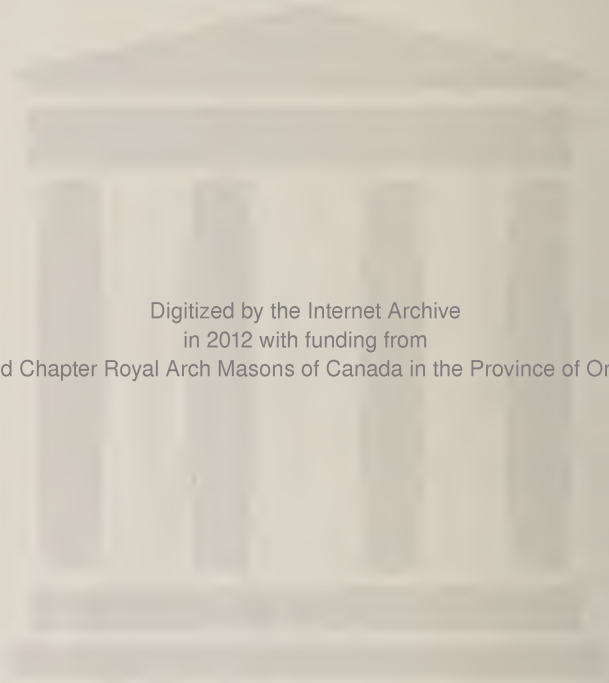






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1888.

PROCEEDINGS

—OF THE—

GRAND CHAPTER

—OF—

Royal Arch Masons

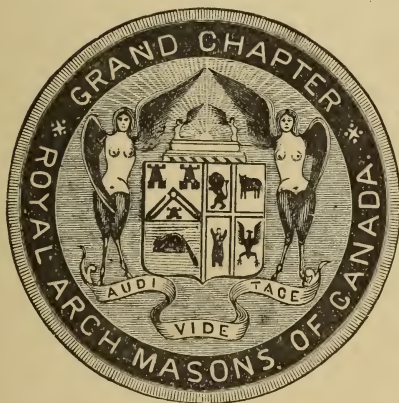
OF CANADA.

AT ITS

Thirty-first Annual Convocation,

—HELD IN THE—

Masonic Hall, Toronto Street,
City of Toronto.



Friday, July 20th, A. D. 1888,
A. J. 2418, A. L. 5888.

ORDERED TO BE READ IN ALL CHAPTERS AND PRESERVED.

ADDRESS—R. B. HUNGERFORD, LONDON, ONT., GRAND Z.

DAVID McLELLAN, HAMILTON, ONT., GRAND SCRIBE E.

A. McPHERSON, PRINTER, 51 JAMES STREET NORTH, HAMILTON, ONT.

GRAND CHAPTER OF CANADA.

PROCEEDINGS.

The Thirty-First Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada, held in the Masonic Hall, Toronto Street, City of Toronto, on Friday the 20th day of July, A. D. 1888, A. I. 2418.

GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. E. Comp.	THOMAS SARGANT, as	Grand Z. }	Grand Council <i>on the throne.</i>
R. E. "	R. B. Hungerford,	" H. }	
R. E. "	J. J. Mason,	" J. }	
R. E. "	David McLellan,	"	Scribe E.
R. E. "	John S. Dewar,	"	" N.
R. E. "	John Nettleton,	"	Prin. Soj.
R. E. "	Edward Mitchell,	"	Treasurer.
E. "	R. T. Walkem, as	"	Registrar.
V. E. "	Michael Houston,	"	1st Asst. Soj.
E. "	Alex. McQueen, as	"	2nd " "
V. E. "	James Sutherland,	"	Sword Bearer.
V. E. "	Hugh Walker,	"	M. of Veils.
V. E. "	J. E. Harrison,	"	Stan'd Bearer.
R. E. "	Wm. Forbes, as	"	Dir. of Cer.
V. E. "	A G. Horwood,	"	Organist.
E. "	Jos. W. Hickson, as	"	Pursuivant.
E. "	P. J. Lightbourne, as	"	Steward.
E. "	A. McGinnis, as	"	"
E. "	C. R. Church, as	"	"
E. "	S. Dubber, as	"	"
"	John H. Pritchard,	"	Janitor.

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS.

R. E. Comp.	Thos. C. Macnabb,	Chatham,	St. Clair District.
" "	Edward Burke,	London,	London, "

R. E. Comp.	H. Lockwood,	Guelph,	Wellington	"	
"	"	Hugh Murray,	Hamilton	Hamilton	"
"	"	Joseph Beck,	Saltford,	Huron	"
"	"	J. H. Widdifield,	Newmarket	Toronto	"
"	"	D. McNaughton,	Cobourg,	Ontario	"
"	"	J. J. Farley,	Belleville,	Pr. Edward	"
"	"	Geo. Gale,	Brockville,	Central	"
"	"	John Leslie,	Winnipeg,	Manitoba	"

PAST GRAND OFFICERS :

M. E. Comp.	Fred. J. Menet,	Toronto,	Past Grand	Z.
"	"	Daniel Spry,	Barrie,	" " "
"	"	Donald Ross,	Picton,	" " "
"	"	Henry Macpherson,	Owen Sound,	" " "
"	"	Thomas Sargent,	Toronto,	" " "
R. E. Comp.	W. J. B. McL. Moore,	Prescott,	"	" H.
"	"	Thos. C. Macnabb,	Chatham,	" " H.
"	"	Kivas Tully,	Toronto,	" " J.
"	"	Henry Robertson,	Collingwood,	" " J.
"	"	R. J. Hovenden,	Toronto,	" " Supt.
"	"	Seymour Porter,	Toronto,	" " "
"	"	A. G. Smyth,	London,	" " "
"	"	W. G. Reid,	Hamilton,	" " "
"	"	John Malloy,	Hamilton,	" " "
"	"	James B. Nixon,	Toronto,	" " "
"	"	J. Ross Robertson,	Toronto,	" " "
"	"	Wm. Gibson,	Beamsville,	" " "
"	"	Alex. Patterson,	Toronto,	" " "
"	"	Wm. McCabe,	Toronto,	" " "
"	"	I. F. Toms,	Goderich,	" " "
"	"	J. B. Trayes,	Port Hope,	" " "
"	"	Chas. Doeblor,	Port Hope,	" " "
"	"	John Scoon,	Guelph,	" " "
"	"	DeWitt H. Martyn,	Kincardine,	" " "
"	"	C. W. Brown,	Toronto,	" " "
"	"	Wm. Forbes,	Grimsby,	" " "
"	"	John A. Wills,	Toronto,	" " "
"	"	James Wilson,	Toronto,	" " "
"	"	Otto Klotz,	Preston,	" " S. N.
"	"	P. J. Slatter,	Toronto,	" " "
"	"	J. E. Harding,	Stratford,	" " Reg.
"	"	John Creasor,	Owen Sound	" " Reg.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES :

M. E. Comp.	Fred. J. Menet,	from G. Chap. of Minnesota.
"	"	Daniel Spry, " " New Jersey.
"	"	Daniel Spry, " " Quebec.
"	"	Donald Ross, " " Connecticut
"	"	Hy. Macpherson, " " California,
"	"	Thomas Sargant, " " Kentucky,
R. E. Comp.	Isaac F. Toms,	" " Alabama,
"	"	R. B. Hungerford, " " Dakota,
"	"	Thos. C. Macnabb, " " Delaware,
"	"	Henry Robertson, " " Dist. of Col.
"	"	Henry Robertson, " " Mississippi.
"	"	Henry Robertson, " " New York.
"	"	David McLellan, " " Georgia.
"	"	Wm. Forbes, " " Illinois,
"	"	Edward Mitchell, " " Louisiana
"	"	R. L. Patterson, " " Maryland
R. E.	"	W. J. B. McL. Moore, " " Missouri.
"	"	J. Ross Robertson, " " Nebraska,
"	"	John S. Dewar, " " New Hamp.
"	"	J. J. Mason, " " Nevada.
"	"	James Wilson, " " N. Carolina.
"	"	R. J. Hovenden, " " Oregon.
"	"	J. B. Traves, " " Rhode Island,
"	"	Wm. Gibson, " " Tennessee.
"	"	J. B. Nixon, " " Vermont.
"	"	Alex. Patterson, " " Virginia.
"	"	Hugh Murray, " " Washing, Ter.

PAST FIRST PRINCIPALS.

M. E. Comp.	Fred J. Menet	R. E. Comp.	J. H. Widdifield
"	"	"	"
"	"	"	H. Lockwood
"	"	V. E.	"
"	"	"	E. T. Malone
"	"	"	"
"	"	"	D. S. Eastwood
"	"	"	"
"	"	"	I. Baker
R. E.	"	"	"
"	"	"	John Nettleton
"	"	"	"
"	"	"	T. L. M. Tipton
"	"	"	"
"	"	"	Hugh Walker
"	"	"	"
"	"	"	M. Houston
"	"	"	"
"	"	"	F. Dalby
"	"	"	"
"	"	"	A. Borngasser
"	"	"	"
"	"	"	J. A. Frazer
"	"	"	"
"	"	"	A. G. Horwood

"	"	Wm. Gibson.	"	"	Geo. J. Bennett
"	"	Alex. Patterson,	"	"	Wm. Walker.
"	"	Wm. McCabe.	E.	"	E. H. Knifton.
"	"	I. F. Toms.	"	"	C G McDermott
"	"	J. B. Traves.	"	"	R. McCaw.
"	"	Chas. Doebler.	"	"	Geo. Monkman,
"	"	John Scoon.	"	"	J. W. Wallace
"	"	DeW'tH. Martyn	"	"	W. R. Howse
"	"	C. W. Brown.	"	"	B. Shortly
"	"	Wm. Forbes,	"	"	John Sinclair
"	"	John A. Wills.	"	"	A. N. Pettit
"	"	James Wilson.	"	"	W. H. Best.
"	"	Otto Klotz.	"	"	C.W. Postlethwaite
"	"	P. J. Slatter.	"	"	B. Saunders
"	"	J. E. Harding.	"	"	T. F. Blackwood
"	"	John Creasor.	"	"	W. S. Robinson
"	"	John S. Dewar.	"	"	Geo. Gott
"	"	R. J. Hovenden.	"	"	J. Hetherington
"	"	R. B. Hungerford.	"	"	Thos. McGregor
"	"	E. Burke.	"	"	A.W. Thompson
"	"	J. J. Mason.	"	"	W. J. Clarke
"	"	David McLellan.	"	"	G. A. K. McLeod
"	"	Hugh Murray.	"	"	John Fraser
"	"	Ed. Mitchell.	"	"	G. G. Rowe
"	"	J. J. Farley.	"	"	D. Bole
"	"	J. B. Nixon.	"	"	T. W. Todd
"	"	J. Ross Robertson,	"	"	C. W. Mulligan
"	"	Joseph Beck.	"	"	A. McQueen
"	"	James Walters.	"	"	David Taylor
"	"	D. McNaughton.	"	"	J. A. Nelles
"	"	John Leslie.	"	"	John Sinclair
"	"	George Gale.			

A Constitutional number of Chapters being represented by their qualified Officers, the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada was opened in **Ample Form** at 10:40 a.m.

V. E. Comp. E. T. Malone, from the Committee on Credentials of Representatives, reported that there are 79 Chapters on the roll of Grand Chapter, of which number 57 were represented by the following Companions :

1. Ancie't Frontenac and Cataraqui, Ex. Comp. R. T. Walkem,	H
2. The Hiram, Ham- ilton, Ex. Comp. E. W. Klotz,	Z
" " C. W. Mulligan,	P.Z
R. E. Comp. Otto Klotz,	P.Z
3. St. John's, Lon- don, E. " A. E. Cooper,	Z
E. " A. Carruthers,	J
E. " A. McQueen,	P.Z
R. E. " John S. Dewar,	P.Z
4. St. Andrew and St. John, Toronto. E. " Robert McKim,	H
R. E. " R. J. Hovenden,	P.Z
R. E. " Seymour Porter,	P.Z
M. E. " Fred. J. Menet,	P.Z
5. St. George's, Lon- don. E. " A. B. Munson,	Z
R. E. " R. B. Hungerford	P.Z
R. E. " E. Burke,	P.Z
R. E. " A. G. Smyth,	P.Z
6. St. John's, Hamil- ton. R. E. " J. J. Mason,	P.Z
R. E. " David McLellan,	P.Z
R. E. " Hugh Murray,	P.Z
R. E. " Wm. G. Reid,	P.Z
R. E. " Ed. Mitchell,	P.Z
R. E. " John Malloy,	P.Z
R. E. " Wm. Gibson,	P.Z
7. Moira, Belleville, E. " A. McGinnis,	Z
R. E. " J. J. Farley,	P.Z
8. King Solomon's, Toronto. E. " R. L. Patterson,	Z
E. " John Akers,	H
E. " E. H. Knifton,	P.Z
V. E. " E. T. Malone,	P.Z
R. E. " David McLellan,	P.Z
R. E. " J. B. Nixon,	P.Z
R. E. " Alex. Patterson,	P.Z
R. E. " Kivas Tully,	P.Z
R. E. " John Ross Robertson,	P.Z
R. E. " P. J. Slatter	P.Z
M. E. " Fred. J. Menet,	P.Z
M. E. " Thomas Sargent	P.Z
M. E. " Daniel Spry,	P.Z
16. Carleton, Ottawa E. " C. R. Church,	Z
E. " J. A. Campbell,	J
E. " David Taylor,	P.Z
V. E. " D. S. Eastwood,	P.Z

18. Oxford, Woodst'k	V. E. Comp.	James Sutherland,	Z
19. Mount Moriah, St. Catharines.	E. "	C. G. McDermott,	Z
22. Grenville, Presc't	R. E. "	W. J. B. McL. Moore,	P.Z
24. Tecumseh, Strat- ford.	E. "	F. W. Gearing,	Z
	V. E. "	I. Baker,	P.Z
	R. E. "	J. E. Harding,	P.Z
27. Manitou, Colling- wood.	V. E. "	John Nettleton,	Z
	E. "	W. T. Toner,	J
	R. E. "	Henry Robertson,	P.Z
	M. E. "	Henry Macpherson,	P.Z
28. Pentalpha, Bow- manville.	E. "	W. R. Piggott,	Z
	E. "	Robert McCaw,	P.Z
	R. E. "	Wm. McCabe	P.Z
29. M c C a l l u m, Dunnville.	V. E. "	Thos. L. M. Tipton,	P.Z
30. Huron, Goderich,	R. E. "	Jos. Beck,	P.Z
	R. E. "	I. F. Toms,	P.Z
31. Prince Edward, Picton.	E. "	E. W. Case,	H
	M. E. "	Donald Ross,	P.Z
32. Waterloo, Galt,	E. "	Thos. McGivern,	H
34. Signet, Barrie.	E. "	D. F. Macwatt,	H
	E. "	Geo. Monkman,	P.Z
	M. E. "	Daniel Spry,	P.Z
35. Keystone, Whitby	E. "	W. R. Howse,	Z
36. Corinthian, Peter- boro'.	E. "	B. Shortly,	P.Z
37. Victoria, P o r t	R. E. "	J. B. Trayes,	P.Z
Hope.	R. E. "	Charles Doeblor,	P.Z
40. Guelph, Guelph,	E. "	James Parker,	Z
	E. "	E. Gemmell,	H.
	E. "	J. A. Nelles,	P.Z
	V. E. "	John Inglés,	P.Z
	V. E. "	Hugh Walker,	P.Z
	R. E. "	John Scoon.	P.Z
	R. E. "	H. Lockwood,	P.Z
41. Harris, Ingersoll.	E. "	M. Walsh,	Z
44. Mount Sinai,	R. E. "	Jas. Walters,	P.Z
Napanee.	M. E. "	Donald Ross,	P.Z
47. Wellington, Chat- ham.	V. E. "	M. Houston,	P.Z
	R. E. "	Thomas C. Macnabb.	P.Z
48. St. John, Cobourg	E. "	P. J. Lightbourne,	Z
	R. E. "	D. McNaughton,	P.Z
49. Elora. Elora,	E. "	Joseph Clarke,	H

	V. E.	"	F. Dalby,	P.Z
52. Prince Rupert, Winnipeg.	R. E.	"	John Leslie,	P.Z
53. Bruce, Petrolia.	E.	"	John Fraser,	Z
	E.	"	John Sinclair,	P.Z
54. Palestine, St. Thomas.	E.	"	S. Dubber,	Z
	E.	"	W. B. Doherty,	H
	E.	"	A. N. Pettit,	P.Z
55. Niagara, Niagara	E.	"	John G. Rousseau,	J
56. Georgian, Owen	R. E.	"	John Creasor,	P.Z
Sound.	M. E.	"	Henry Macpherson,	P.Z
59. Sussex, Brock- ville.	E.	"	Wm. King,	Z
	E.	"	P. W. D. Broderick,	H
	E.	"	J. Quigg,	P.H
	R. E.	"	George Gale,	P.Z
60. Doric, Newmar- ket.	E.	"	Thomas Ratcliff	Z
	E.	"	J. E. Hollingshead,	J
	V. E.	"	A. Borngrasser,	P.Z
	R. E.	"	J. H. Widdifield,	P.Z
62. York, Eglington.	V. E.	"	E. T. Malone,	P.Z
	M. E.	"	Thos. Sargent,	P.Z
	M. E.	"	Daniel Spry,	P.Z
63. Havelock, Kin- cardine.	R. E.	"	DeWitt H. Martyn,	P.Z
	R. E.	"	I. F. Toms,	P.Z
65. St. Pauls, Toron- to.	E.	"	F. F. Manley,	Z
	E.	"	A. D. Ponton	H
	E.	"	W. S. Robinson,	P.Z
	E.	"	B. Saunders,	P.Z
	E.	"	C. W. Postlethwaite,	P.Z
	E.	"	W. H. Best,	P.Z
	E.	"	T. F. Blackwood,	P.Z
	R. E.	"	C. W. Brown,	P.Z
	M. E.	"	F. J. Menet,	P.Z
66. The Malloch, Clinton.	E.	"	Wm. G. Duff,	Z
69. Grimsby, Grims- by.	R. E.	"	Wm. Forbes,	P.Z
	R. E.	"	Wm. Gibson,	P.Z
	R. E.	"	J. J. Mason,	P.Z
71. Prince of Wales, Amherstburg.	E.	"	Geo. Gott,	P.Z
75. St. Clair, Milton.	E.	"	J. E. Harrison,	Z
	V. E.	"	J. A. Frazer,	H
	E.	"	John Lyon,	J

77. Occident, Toronto.	E.	"	Joseph W. Hickson,	Z
	E.	"	W. Riddell,	H
	E.	"	S. Montgomery,	J
	E.	"	John Hetherington,	P.Z
	V. E.	"	A. G. Horwood,	P.Z
	R. E.	"	Jas. Wilson,	P.Z
	R. E.	"	John A. Wills,	P.Z
	M. E.	"	Thos. Sargent,	P.Z
79. Orient, Toronto.	M. E.	"	Fred. J. Menet.	P.Z
	M. E.	"	Daniel Spry,	P.Z
	E.	"	Ira Bates,	Z
	E.	"	Wm. Bain,	J
	E.	"	M. Gibbs,	P.H
	M. E.	"	Thomas Sargent,	P.Z
	M. E.	"	Daniel Spry,	P.Z
	E.	"	Thos. McGregor,	P.Z
80. Ark, Windsor.	E.	"	A. W. Thompson,	P.Z
82. Shuniah, P o r t Arthur.	E.	"	W. J. Clarke,	P.Z
	R. E.	"	H. Lockwood, Proxy,	P.Z
83. Ionic, Orangeville	M. E.	"	Thos. Sargent,	P.Z
	E.	"	G. A. K. McLeod,	P.Z
85. Exeter, Exeter.	E.	"	D. Bole,	P.Z
86. Macpherson, Meaford.	E.	"	Thomas C. Macnabb,	P.Z
	R. E.	"	Daniel Spry, Proxy,	P.Z
90. Golden. Rat Por- tage.	E.	"	Chas. F. Mansell,	Z
	E.	"	G. G. Rowe,	P.Z
91. Antiquity, Park- dale.	E.	"	T. W. Todd,	P.Z
	V. E.	"	Geo. J. Bennett,	P.Z
	V. E.	"	Wm. Walker,	P.Z
	M. E.	"	Daniel Spry,	P.Z
92. Spry, Alliston.	R. E.	"	David McLellan, Proxy,	P.Z
93. Metropolitan, Melbourne.	E.	"	J. W. Wallace,	Z.
94. Midland, Lindsay	E.	"	W. J. Hallett,	H
	E.	"	B. Dingle,	J
	V. E.	"	Geo J Bennett,	Z
U.D. Tuscan, Bramp- ton	M E.	"	Thos Sargent,	P Z

VISITOR.

R. E. Comp. Joseph Mitchell, G. S. E. Grand Chapter of Quebec.

22 Chapters are not represented.

Number of votes entitled to be cast at Grand Chapter, 256.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

E. T. MALONE	<i>Chairman.</i>	} <i>Committee.</i>
W. R. HOWSE.		
A. B. MUNSON.		

On motion of V. E. Comp. E. T. Malone, seconded by E. Comp. W. R. Howse, the report of the Committee on the Credentials of Representatives was received and adopted.

The M. E. Grand Z. granted permission for the admission of all Royal Arch Masons in good standing during the session of the Grand Chapter as visitors.

The Grand Scribe E. read the Rules and Regulations for the government of Grand Chapter during business. The Grand Scribe E. commenced to read the minutes of the proceedings of the Thirtieth Annual Convocation held in the town of Brockville on the 15th day of July, A. D. 1887, A. I. 2417, when it was moved by R. E. Comp. R. B. Hungerford, seconded by R. E. Comp. J. J. Mason, and

Resolved, That as the proceedings of the last Annual Convocation, held on the 15th day of July, have been printed and copies thereof sent to all the Chapters under this jurisdiction, the recorded minutes thereof be considered as read and the same be now confirmed.

The M. E. Grand Z. then read the following

ADDRESS.

To the Most Excellent, the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada. GREETING.

COMPANIONS :

Unforeseen circumstances having transpired during the past year, and the removal of M. Ex.Comp. R. Hendry, Jr., Grand Z. of this Grand Chapter, from our jurisdiction, constitutionally placed the supervision and direction of the Royal Craft in my hands for the larger portion of the year. I again welcome you to this the Thirty-first Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter,

and to the city of Toronto, my Masonic as well as my native birth-place, where I have enjoyed such constant and unwavering fellowship and brotherly kindness from my Companions. I trust, as we have again gathered around the altar and supplicated the Divine guidance upon all our undertakings, we will be endowed with fresh vigor and determination to work for the good of our fellow-man and the success of our Order, ever upholding those principles, of right and truth, that will establish us upon a firm and solid basis, that we may be deemed worthy Craftsmen and entitled to the wages of virtue and honor.

It affords me a great deal of pleasure to meet you all here to-day, and I now present, for your approval, a report of my official acts during the period of this year, which I have had the privilege to preside.

In looking over the reports of some of the Grand Superintendents of districts, I regret they are not very flattering to some Chapters on our register; and, whilst I agree with some of their remarks as to the reasons why success does not attend the efforts of Companions who have toiled long and earnestly, yet I am satisfied that the apparent apathy and lethargy which characterizes a number of these Chapters is from the fact that the energies of many have drifted into other channels which offer a certain beneficiary reward, and in consequence, the Royal Craft has and will suffer on that account.

In a Masonic experience of thirty years, I have found that the labor of keeping Masonic bodies in a healthy state has always devolved upon a certain few of our Craftsmen who have the good of our Order at heart, and, whilst they have not been encouraged and assisted by the masses yet they have done good true and perfect work in promulgating those lessons which are always inculcated upon every initiate, but which I fear are too readily forgotten by many. I honor those who are here to-day, as it evinces that there is still a desire to have this branch of Masonry well and carefully guarded and watched, and I trust that we may long be spared to assist each other in every laudable enterprise that will redound to the good of Royal Arch Masons.

NEW CHAPTERS.

During the year dispensations have been granted to certain Companions to form the following Chapters:

Tuscan, U. D., Brampton, 8th November, 1887.

Australasian Kilwinning, U. D., Australia, 7th January, 1888.

City of Melbourne, U. D., Australia, 7th January, 1888.

The Chapter in Brampton I consider an acquisition to our register. I have no doubt from the energy and ability displayed by the Companions who formed this Chapter that it will be one of the best in the jurisdiction. I recommend that warrants be granted to all of these Chapters.

DISPENSATIONS.

During the year a number of dispensations have been applied for, all of which have been granted, They are as follows :

To install as Z., not being H. 3.

To install as Z., not being H. or J., 1.

To install as H., not being J., 7.

To make serving Companions, 2.

To make a Companion within the jurisdiction of another Chapter, 1.

To elect officers at a meeting other than the regular one, 4.

To install officers at a meeting other than the regular one, 2.

To wear Royal Arch clothing in public, 5.

In the issuing of these dispensations the usual recommendation of the Grand Superintendents accompanied them, and as they were to assist in forwarding the interests of the Royal Craft, I instructed the Grand Scribe E. to issue them upon the receipt of the usual fee.

REPRESENTATIVES.

The formation of the Grand Chapter of New Brunswick, during the year 1887, necessitated the interchange of Companions as representatives in both Grand Chapters. The Grand Z. was pleased to nominate R. E. Comp. Henry Duffell as our Representative near the Grand Chapter of N. B., which was confirmed by M. E. Comp. Lester Peters, St. John, Grand Z., who acceded to the recommendation of our Grand Z. by nominating V. E. Comp. Hugh A. Mackay, Berlin, as their Representative near the Grand Chapter of Canada.

Vacancies having occurred in the roll of Representatives to this Grand Chapter from Sister Grand Chapters, the following Comps. were recommended by the Grand Z. and myself, respectively ;

Maine—R. E. Comp. J. A. Wills, Toronto, 22nd September, 1887, in place R. E. Comp. D. R. Munro, who left this jurisdiction in forming the G. Chapter of N. B.

Indiana—R. E. Comp. Wm. Hawthorn, London, 5th March, 1888, in place of M. E. Comp. Jas. Seymour—deceased.

There are two vacancies yet unrepresented: Iowa, Grand Mark Lodge of England and Wales, both rendered vacant by the death of M. E. Comp. Jas. Seymour, P. G. Z.

I am pleased to state that these nominations were cheerfully confirmed, and I trust will be approved by you, and that you will accord to these Companions that welcome which the Grand Chapters that they have the honor to represent will highly appreciate, so that the bond of fraternal union may be more closely knit together.

FINANCES.

The financial statement for the year is very encouraging, and reflects credit on our Grand Scribe E. and Grand Treasurer.

The receipts for the year have been \$2247.34 which, with the balance from last year, \$1774.06, makes the amount of \$4021.40, represented as follows:

Fees, dues, &c.	\$1578 72
Interest on deposit in bank	28 12
Interest on investments, half year...	265 50
Bonus from Land Security Co	375 00
	\$2247 34

The expenditure of the past year has been \$2,535.35 (this includes a payment of \$570 upon the stock in the Land Security Co.), leaving a cash balance in the Bank of Commerce of \$1486.05. I would suggest a further investment of \$1000 in good debentures as a permanent investment.

The investments are represented as follows:

Western Canada Permanent Building Society.....	\$4,500 bearing 5 %
Toronto General Trusts.....	3,000 " 5 %
Land Security—old stock paid up.....	1,500 yield'g 10 %
" " —new stock.....	780 " 10 %

The financial standing of Grand Chapter is as follows:

Investments	\$9780 00
Cash in Bank.	1486 05
	\$11266 05

BY LAWS.

The by-laws of a number of Chapters have been submitted for confirmation, and having the necessary recommendation of the the Grand Superintendent, and being in accordance with the constitution of the Grand Chapter, they were confirmed.

OBITUARY.

Within our Grand Jurisdiction there have been forty-two of our Companions summoned from labor to rest. They have many of them been associated with us in the toils and pleasures of promulgating the tenets and principles of our beloved Order, and we trust their experience gave them lessons of wisdom and that they are now in the full enjoyment of life everlasting. Amongst those I would especially mention

V. E. Comp. W. Forbes Murray, P. G. S., 25th January, 1888.

R. E. Comp. Wm. Kerr, P. G. Reg., 1st December, 1887.

R. Comp. H. A. Baxter, P. G. Supt., 19th June, 1888.

M. E. Comp. James Seymour, P. G. Z., 9th January, 1888.

M. E. Comp. Seymour will be missed from our midst ; he has been always present at Grand Chapter for many years, and was one who had the welfare of the craft at heart. He always took part in our deliberations with an unwavering interest and ready advice. He was a kind and earnest adviser and counsellor, a keen and determined debater, and while at times we could not agree with him upon many points yet he was always courteous and considerate with those who did not view matters in the same light as himself. I speak feelingly upon this loss as to me in years gone by he was a warm and kind personal friend. His patient endurance during his long and painful affliction endeared him to us all and I am sure his bereaved family has our deepest sympathies. Let us therefore bend with resignation and submission to the will of the Almighty, resting assured that our loss is his eternal gain.

And now in conclusion, Companions, in surrendering to you the sceptre of office for the third time, I desire to express my heartfelt thanks to you for the kind assistance and many acts of courtesy and kindness I have received from you, and I earnestly hope and trust that the Most High will permit us for many years to come to meet together in that fraternal harmony which has been our happy lot in the past, and that he will guide

us in all our deliberations that when he calls us at last we may hear the welcome, "Well done good and faithful servant." So mote it be.

THOS. SARGANT,
Grand Z.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. R. B. Hungerford, seconded by R. E. Comp. J. J. Mason, and

Resolved, That the address of the M. E. the Grand Z. be referred to the Executive Committee, to report thereon during the present Convocation of the Grand Chapter.

The following reports of the various Grand Superintendents of Districts were presented :

ST. CLAIR DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

I herewith submit my report of the St. Clair District.

Wellington Chapter, No. 47, meets at Chatham on the second Thursday of each month ; has a membership of thirty-six, the average attendance is eleven. Being a member of this Chapter I have attended all of its convocations. The Z., H., and J. can work the Chapter fairly well. Eight regular and two emergent meetings have been held. The S. E.'s and Treasurer's books are well kept. The cash is paid over promptly to the Treasurer. There are four companions in arrears over one year, and two over five years. The Chapter meets in the Masonic Hall, and uses the furniture of the Lodge Room. The Regalia and paraphernalia are insured ; the assets will amount to about \$300.00, no liabilities. The Hall is suitable. The Chapter was not represented at last Grand Chapter, although the H. and J. attended Grand Lodge. The prospects of the Chapter, with energy and zeal, on the part of the Officers, are first class.

Prince of Wales Chapter. No. 71, meets at Amherstburg, on the first Monday on or after full moon. Geo. Gott, Z., Rich. Elliott, S. E. I was unable on account of business engagements to pay an official visit to this Chapter, but was informed by R. E. Comp. Craig, of Windsor, of its working, it was a source of regret to me, as I would have been pleased to meet with the companions to renew the enjoyable meetings I have had so often with the

many personal friends and companions of that place, whilst acting as D. D. G. M., and Grand Superintendent of this District. I have received a letter from Ex Comp. Geo. Gott, Z. of this Chapter, in which he says 'our Chapter is not in a very prosperous condition, but at the same time in fair working order.' Several of our members are away during the summer months, which makes it hard to get up a meeting. R. E. Comp. Craig, Grand Supt. visited in February 1887. The number on the roll is twenty-one, average attendance ten. At the visit of R. E. Comp. Craig in January last, the R. A. was conferred on three members. The Z. H. and J. have worked in all the degrees. Nine meetings were held during the year, five regular and four emergent. There are no funds in Bank. The dues are \$2.00 per annum. There are no members over two years in arrears for dues. The assets are in furniture and regalia, both of which are very good, and worth at least \$300.00. There are no liabilities, and no insurance at present. The Chapter has always carried \$400.00, and will insure for the full amount in the near future. The hall is not very suitable, but is the best they can get. The Chapter was not represented at last Grand Chapter. The S. E. of this Chapter sent me no notices of meetings.

Ark Chapter, No. 80, meets at Windsor on the second Monday in every month, Thos. McGregor, Windsor, Z. I visited this Chapter at its regular convocation in January, and installed the officers. Ex. Comp. McGregor informs me that they have had a very good year, considering the times. They have added six new members, restored three, and to two granted certificates of withdrawal, which gives fifty-nine members on the roll. Twelve regular, and nine emergent meetings have been held. Average attendance is 20. The S. E. was absent, and consequently was unable to give me information as to arrears in dues. He states that he did not get a copy of Grand Chapter Proceedings for 1887. The S. E. sent me no notice of meetings. This Chapter is a good live one, doing well, and prospering, the companions being zealous in the good working of their Chapter. Ex. Comp. Thos. McGregor, Z., represented the Chapter at the last convocation of Grand Chapter.

Macnabb Chapter, No. 88, meets at Dresden on the first Thursday of every month, J. N. Sharpe, Dresden, Z. This Chapter has a membership of nineteen. The average attendance is ten. During the year one candidate received the M.M., P. M. and M. E. M. and two the R. A. Five regular meetings were held. I had the pleasure of visiting this Chapter once.

The officers are well up in their own work, and can confer the degrees in a most creditable manner. The cash is promptly paid over to the Treasurer. No funds are deposited in Bank but are used for expenses. There are no companions in arrears over one year. The assets are \$100.00, and no liabilities. The value of the furniture is about \$25.00. The Chapter uses the Lodge Room and furniture. There is no insurance. I received notices of all meetings. The Chapter was not represented at last Grand Chapter. The prospects of the Chapter are good, and although not making many R. A. Masons, those taken in thus far are the right material.

Erie Chapter, No. 73, meets at Ridgetown, Wednesday, on or before full moon. I wrote Comp. Sutherland and, who, as per returns made to Grand Chapter in 1886, was S. E. of the Chapter, but received no reply. I subsequently met Comp. Anderson, a member of the Chapter, who informed me that they had not the requisite number of members, nine, living in Ridgetown to constitutionally meet, the S. E. and others having left. They had only thirteen members on the roll, and consequently had no meetings. Promises of renewed interest in the work having been made, and a likelihood that the Chapter may revive during the coming year, induces me to recommend that the companions be given another chance to resuscitate the fortunes of the Chapter before the withdrawal of the warrant is taken into consideration.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

THOMAS C. MACNABB,
Grand Supt. St. Clair District.

Chatham, Ont., 11th July, 1888.

LONDON DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

I have the honor to submit my report on the condition of Capitular Masonry in this District.

Of the eight Chapters in London District, six of them are meeting regularly, and in good working order, but there are two, which I regret to state are in an unhealthy condition.

Minnewawa, No. 78, Park Hill, and Beaver, No. 74, Strathroy, I have met members of both these Chapters in

London, and they expressed a desire to get to work again, but do not appear to have made any effort in that direction. I wrote to a prominent member of Minnewawa, offering to visit and give any assistance in my power to get the Chapter in working order, but received no reply. I also wrote to 'Beaver' on May 7th, and received a reply July 12th to the effect that finances were low, but that there were a number of Brethren who were expected to send in their applications for membership as soon as the warm weather had passed over, which would increase the finances of the Chapter, and enable them to "pay their dues." Not hearing directly from Minnewawa my opinion as to their coming to life again is not favorable, still rather than be considered too severe, I would recommend that both Chapters be notified that unless the constitution was complied with before the next convocation of the Grand Chapter that their charters be withdrawn.

St. John's No. 3. Meets at London. It has a membership of 67. Average attendance is 15. All the degrees have been worked during the year by the regular officers assisted by the Grand Superintendent. Nine regular and two emergent meetings have been held. The condition of S. E.'s and Treasurer's books is good. The cash received by S. E. is promptly paid over to the Treasurer, and deposited in bank in name of Z. and Treasurer. There are no companions in arrears. The furniture is the property of both city Chapters, value \$600, insured for \$400 (\$200 each.) An inventory is kept outside the Chapter. The Hall is suitable, and the Chapter was represented at Grand Chapter by P. Z. and J. Dispensations for installing J. as Z. and a companion who had not filled the office of J. to H. were granted on my recommendation. This Chapter has been fortunate in adding to its members during the year, a number who have the reputation of being good workers in Craft Lodges, and will make good material for the future working of the Chapter.

St. George, No. 5, meets at London. I have the honor of being a member of this Chapter, and am a regular attendant at its convocations, as well as those of St. John's, No. 3. Number of members is 72. Average attendance is 15. The only degree worked in the year was M. E. M., which was done by Z., who is a good worker. No. of meetings, 12, regular. Books are in good condition. The cash is promptly paid over to the Treasurer, and deposited in a Bank until otherwise invested. There are 33 companions over one year in arrears for dues; 8

over two years, 2 over three years. The longest period any companion is in arrears is 3 years. The assets are \$1,000 Liabilities none. The Chapter was represented at Grand Chapter by Z. This Chapter has good material amongst its members but the attendance is not what it should be. With the membership of the two Chapters in London the average attendance of each should be equal to what the combined attendance of both has been during the past year. It is with sincere regret that I here record the death of a venerable member of this Chapter, R. Ex. Comp. H. A. Baxter. He always took a deep interest in the welfare of St. George's, No. 5, and his familiar face will be missed at our convocations. While deeply mourning his loss, let us bow in humble submission to the will of the T. A. L. G. M. H.

Wawanosh, No. 15, meets at Sarnia. The number of members is 45. The average attendance is 10. All the degrees have been worked during the year, J., Z., and P. Z. taking part, There have been two regular and three emergent meetings held during the year. The condition of the books is satisfactory, There are three companions in arrears over 3 years, 4 over two years, 2 over three years, 4 over seven, and 5 about 20. The funds are low but liabilities small, about \$25.00. I made my official visit to this Chapter on April 23rd, when I was received with a hearty and fraternal welcome. The R. A. degree was worked by P. Z. Ex. Comp. Judge McKenzie assisted by the writer. Ex. Comp. McKenzie did his part well, and not only has the reputation of being a good worker, but also has the credit for keeping this Chapter in working order. He expressed his opinion in regard to the future prosperity of the Chapter, as being favorable, and that the coming fall would add a few more to its members.

Bruce Chapter, No. 53, Petrolia. This is the only Chapter of the six live ones that I have not had the pleasure of visiting, and am indebted to Ex. Comp. Ford for the following information. The number of members on roll is 46. Average attendance, without visitors, is 12. The condition of the books is good. The cash received by S. E. is paid over to Treasurer, who takes charge of the funds. The Chapter was represented at the last convocation of Grand Chapter directly. The Chapter is financially sound, and is just now arranging for a new hall in connection with Blue Lodge. The assets are, about \$200.00, No work has been done this year,

but the officers are prepared to do the work when called on. As there has been no work to do the Chapter has not opened up since May. The arrears for dues are very light, only three or four considered doubtful,

Palestine Chapter, No. 54, meets at St. Thomas. The number of members is 79, and the average attendance is 15. All of the degrees have been worked during the year by Z., H. and J. Ten regular meetings have been held. The cash received by S. E. is promptly paid over to the Treasurer and deposited in a bank in the name of the Z. and Treasurer. The dues for year are \$79. There are 22 Companions in arrears over one year, 12 over two years, 6 over three, 4 over four, and 5 over two. The assets are \$90; cash liabilities none. Value of furniture is \$642, and is insured for \$300. An inventory is kept outside of Chapter. The Chapter was represented at Grand Chapter direct. In my opinion the future prosperity is assured. I visited this Chapter on December 8th, 1887, accompanied by Ex. Comp. A. B. Munson, Z., St. George, No. 5. I installed the officers, assisted by the P. Z.,s present, and after Chapter was closed we were invited to the refreshment room, where a bountiful supply was provided, all on temperance principles. We spent an hour or two here in the usual manner, and left in good order well pleased with our visit to Palestine 54.

Aylmer Chapter, No. 81, Aylmer. The number of members is 29, and the average attendance is 11. The Z. has worked all the degrees during the year. Seven regular meetings have been held during the year. The books are in good condition, and the cash received promptly paid to the Treasurer, who looks after the funds. Companions in arrears for dues over one year, 4; over two, 2; over five, 2. The assets are \$200.00; liabilities \$24.00. Value of furniture is \$150.00, and is insured for \$100.00. The hall is suitable. This Chapter was represented at Grand Chapter by Z. Opinion as to future prosperity, fair. I made my official visit to this Chapter on April 27th, when I was also accompanied by Ex. Comp. Munson. There was a good attendance, some of the members driving a distance of 12 miles. The R. A. degree was worked by R. Ex. Comp Clutton, Z., assisted by the regular officers, each doing his own particular part in accordance with the work, and in a manner that would reflect credit on any Chapter. We were entertained after closing with refreshments,

speeches, etc., and would just say to my successor, "Do not miss visiting Aylmer Chapter, No. 81."

I have not been able to adhere strictly to the form of report recommended by the Executive Committee, but have endeavored to keep as near to it as possible. I would suggest that another question be added, viz: "Is the Chapter provided with the necessary paraphernalia?" I find that they are not all provided with banners. They are not expensive, and if not exactly necessary they are certainly an acquisition, and assist H. in making his part of the work more instructive and intelligible. I also observed that in most of the Chapters clause LXX., page 28, of the constitution is almost entirely disregarded, and if the S. S. performed his duty in accordance with the law the majority of the members would be refused admittance.

I beg to thank the companions of the district for the courtesy and attention shown me on all occasions.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

E. BURKE

Grand Supt. London District.

London. 2nd July, 1888.

WELLINGTON DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

I have the honor to submit the following report upon the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in the five Chapters, at present constituting Wellington District :

The officers and members of Grand River Chapter, No. 70, Berlin, after trying for some years to carry on the work of the Chapter in a satisfactory manner have been unable to do so, and decided last year that it was useless to continue the struggle against lack of interest on the part of many members, inability to attend on the part of others, and the complete absence of anything in the shape of new or promising material in the neighborhood. The companions who met me on the occasion of my second visit, in December last, to wind up the affairs of the Chapter, are old and enthusiastic Masons, worthy of a better fate so far as R. A. Masonry is concerned ; they at least deserve to be placed where they have more than one not very strong M. M. Lodge from which to select their material and where the outside influences are less antagonistic to things Masonic,

Against these and other disheartening influences even their enthusiasm was of no avail, and the warrant was duly returned by me to the Grand S. E. on the eleventh of January last. Unfortunately, in Wellington District, there are but two Chapters, with a really good prospect of continued prosperity, these are Waterloo Chapter, No. 32, of Galt, and Guelph Chapter, No. 40, of Guelph. They are both favorably situated, are in a position to draw members from several lodges in their immediate vicinity, if not in the same town, and both have many companions of influence and ability to assist them. I look upon the prosperous future of these Chapters as assured, and will refer to them again. The other Chapters upon which I shall report are not in a position to do much work, they are dependent each upon one not very strong Lodge in their own town for their new material, and without much perseverance and determination on the part of not only those elected to rule, but of all the rest of the companions, interest must and will be lost, the meetings be held with less and less regularity until at last from sheer inanition the Chapter dies and the warrant is withdrawn. It is true that these Chapters have lodges in the neighboring towns or villages from which material might be drawn; but I need hardly draw your attention to the fact that such material is as a rule hard to get, and when procured conduces very little to the stability of the building in which it is incorporated, unless, as occasionally happens, it is of exceptional quality.

Waterloo Chapter, No. 32, Galt, the oldest Chapter in the District, is, I am pleased to say, in a very satisfactory condition. It is true that it has not done much work during the past year, but I do not look upon much work as the one essential to success—far better little and good work upon good material than much work done in a poor and slovenly manner. I visited Waterloo Chapter on the fourteenth of May last, accompanied by several companions from Guelph and was received in the cordial, hearty manner characteristic of the Galt Masons. Owing to the non-appearance of an accepted candidate no work was done, and the principals were much disappointed at the lost opportunity. In a Chapter having so many able Past Principals and so many companions of ability, the work is done correctly and well as a matter of course, and though I saw none on my official visit, I have seen it done on other occasions and always done well. The books are well and neatly kept by Ex. Comp. Shupe, P. Z., who is S. E. The outstanding dues are

trifling, and at the time of my visit the Chapter had about \$100 in cash and no debts. The meetings, which are fairly well attended, averaging from 10 to 15 out of a membership of 34, are held in the Blue Lodge room—a most convenient and comfortably furnished room, the furniture peculiar to the degrees is in good order, and they have everything necessary to the most perfect exemplification of the work. Everything is insured and an inventory kept outside the building. Up to the time of my visit no work had been done, one candidate had been accepted but failed to attend, owing, if I remember right, to illness in his family or something of that kind. Notwithstanding temporary lack of work, I consider Waterloo Chapter to be in a thoroughly satisfactory condition; they have a membership of 34, principally clever, able, and several of them distinguished Masons, all able and willing to work. They have a good room, ample funds, and if applications come in slowly at times they will come in fast enough at others. The material is at hand and must be utilized eventually—a few quiet months are frequently beneficial to all concerned.

Guelph Chapter, No. 40, Guelph, has done more work than any Chapter in the district and more than it has done for several years. Five Companions have received the R. A. Degree and ten applications have been balloted for and accepted. The books are well kept by Companion Gibson, and it is in a sound, financial condition, though with but little cash on hand. It is the only Chapter in the district meeting in a special Chapter room, which is owned, with the blue rooms adjoining, by a Masonic Hall Company composed of Masons, by whom the Masonic Block was built some fifteen years ago. As it sublets the room to the Council of R. & S. Masters and to the Knights Templar, it is very favorably situated as regards rent, and has quite recently reduced the dues from \$3 to \$2 per annum. The Chapter room is not very large but extremely comfortable; it has recently been artistically painted and will compare favorably with any room in the Dominion, except in size; it is, however, quite large enough for Guelph. The furniture is good and complete, except the banners which will no doubt soon be in their places—all well insured and an inventory kept outside the building. The outstanding dues do not amount to very much, and are all good and collectable on demand. The cash available is required to pay for the recent decorations; but no unreasonable expense or liability has been incurred—the resulting balance of a prosperous year having

been spent in much needed renovation and decoration. The work has been correctly and well done by the respective officers, the First Principal having conferred all the degrees, relieved occasionally by various Past Principals when several degrees were worked the same night. Principals H. and J. have not worked any of the degrees. The retiring officers have done their work well, and I have no doubt those about to be installed will prove worthy successors to those who have immediately preceded them. The average attendance is not large for a Chapter with a membership of over 70; however, with a present large increase of new companions, no doubt it will be better next year. From 13 to 20 may be set down as the usual attendance. Many members live out of town, some are gradually sinking into the sere and yellow leaf, and there are a few drones in every Chapter.

Elora Chapter, No. 49, Elora, though not a strong Chapter, has, I think, a fair chance of success; but much will depend upon those elected to rule and the support they receive from their companions. At present much difficulty is experienced in holding meetings as the membership is so small—about 27—and of these hardly more than a quorum live in the village, most of the others living in Fergus or neighborhood. No work has been done during the past year, so that I saw none when I visited the Chapter on the 30th of May last, but from what I saw of the members of the Chapter I am sure any work would be fairly well done, not perhaps as well as in Galt Chapter for instance, but intelligently and correctly. The books are well kept by Comp. Gay, S. E., and though there is but little cash on hand the finances are in a sound condition—no debt—and dues outstanding are good and collectable. The Chapter meets in the lodge room—a convenient and comfortable rented room; the furniture is insured for its value or thereabouts. I understand and believe there is much good material in Fergus and Elora only waiting development, but so much depends upon the energy and popularity of the rulers of a Chapter, situated as is Elora Chapter, that it is hard to predict its future. My opinion is that with determination and well directed effort on the part of the present members a fairly successful Chapter can be established; but the companions, if they wish to succeed, must remember that “unity is strength”—an axiom well proved on the occasion of my official visit, when their united efforts offered such a cordial welcome to myself and my comrades from Guelph.

Enterprise Chapter, No. 67, Harriston, has sent no returns

for some years. I don't know how many as I could get no answers to my letters to the officers of the Chapter. From what I can learn, I consider this Chapter to have lost its usefulness, and would recommend that my successor be instructed to call upon its officers and companions to show cause why its warrant should not be immediately withdrawn.

On proposing to visit Ionic Chapter, No. 83, Orangeville, I was notified by Companion McLaren, S. E., that it would be impossible to hold a meeting, so many members live out of town that a quorum could not be obtained. The heat of the room is, I understand, a great obstacle to meetings in the summer months, and general lack of interest seems to be sapping the vitality of this Chapter. No work has been done and none seems in prospect ; but I think if the companions desire to continue the Chapter and are willing to pay their dues, they should be allowed to do so, even if the meetings are few and far between.

No complaints of any kind were brought under my notice, and I am much gratified to find so much peace and harmony within the district. Fraternal visiting has been inaugurated between the Chapters which are accessible to each other, and these visits may, I trust in the near future, lead to the establishment of an annual Chapter of instruction. I have been asked for but one dispensation, namely, from Elora Chapter for permission to install Comp. Joseph Clarke as Second Principal, he not having occupied the Third Principal's chair. In the peculiar circumstances of the Chapter, I had much pleasure in recommending the M. E. the Grand Z. to grant the dispensation, which he was pleased to do.

If it is allowable in any official report of this kind I would like to recommend that no warrants be granted for new Chapters except after the most careful enquiry has shown that there are *more* than the usual elements of a successful Chapter in the place designated. For my year of office has impressed me more than ever with the conviction that scattered feeble Chapters, as those in small towns and villages too frequently are, are not only no acquisition to Grand Chapter but are a decided element of weakness, creating as they undoubtedly do a class of companions, who being imperfectly informed and unimpressed with the beauty and dignity of the degrees, become habitually careless in attendance, and by their own carelessness, lead others who might under favorable circumstances have proved orna-

ments and pillars of the Chapter, to conclude that what is worth so little consideration from its members, would be worth but little to themselves.

I gladly avail myself of this opportunity to publicly thank R. E. Comp. McLellan for his unfailing courtesy and promptness and the companions of the district for the kind cordiality with which I have been received.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

H. LOCKWOOD,
Grand Supt., Wellington District,

Guelph, 4th July 1888.

HAMILTON DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent, the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons.

I have the honor to present my report on the condition of Capitular Masonry in the Hamilton District.

I am of opinion that Royal Arch Masonry in this district is in a better condition than it was last year. In three of the Chapters the meetings have been regularly held, and the work creditably performed. The attendance has been larger, the interest displayed by the companions has been greater, and the finances are in a better condition than last year.

The exception to this satisfactory state of affairs is Wentworth Chapter, No. 87, which has not been regular in the holding of its meetings. Frequently, during the year, it failed to meet from want of a quorum; notwithstanding the excellent brother at its head, at considerable inconvenience regularly attended, going from Hamilton, where he resides, for the purpose of opening his Chapter. The membership of this Chapter is 46, and with this number on the register, there should be no difficulty in securing the presence of the constitutional number at each stated meeting. The fact that the Excellent Z. is not a resident of Dundas, where the Chapter is held, is, I think, a disadvantage, for no matter how much ability he may bring to the discharge of his duties, or how excellent a ritualist, or zealous a Mason he may be (and all of these qualities Excellent Companion Bennett certainly has) his non-residence, his not being constantly upon the spot to stir up the flagging energies of his brethren, his inability to attend the blue lodges

of the town and the immediate neighborhood from which the Chapter must draw its material, must militate against it. The members of this Chapter should seriously consider whether it would not be advisable to depend more upon those living in the immediate neighborhood of the Chapter, and less upon those residing outside the town.

St. Clair Chapter, No. 75, Milton, has a membership of 32, one brother having been initiated during the year. This Chapter is in a very fine condition. I was delighted during my visit to find it in such a prosperous state. The books are well kept, the officers particularly well up in their work, and the finances in fine shape, there being over \$200 in the treasury. I am satisfied from examination and what I saw of the officers and companions that it is in a most satisfactory state.

The Hiram Chapter, No. 2, Hamilton, has a fine membership, and is officered by zealous brethren—Ex. Comp. E. Klotz is First Principal. The membership is 177,* the degrees have been conferred on four initiates during the year.

St. John's Chapter, No. 6, Hamilton, has a membership of 156, one was admitted by joining, and six by initiation during the year. R. E. Comp. E. Mitchell is First Principal.

All of these Chapters have under consideration the names of brethren applying for the degrees, and so give promise of continued prosperity.

On October 13th, 1887, I visited St. John's Chapter, No. 6, in company with the members of the committee appointed by the G. Z., to procure and present to R. Ex. Comp. Edward Mitchell, Grand Treasurer, a Past Grand Superintendent's regalia. In the presence of a very large number of companions, Most Ex. Comp. Sargant made the presentation, which was accompanied by an address in illuminated book form.

On January 12th, 1888, I visited The Hiram, No. 2, and St. John's, No. 6, and installed the officers, in which ceremony I received the assistance of many Right Excellent and Excellent Companions.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

HUGH MURRAY,
Grand Supt. Hamilton District.

Hamilton, 5th June, 1888.

HURON DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

I have the honor to submit the following report on the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in the Huron District.

There are eight chapters in this District, but one of them, St. James', No. 46, is really dormant. The following particulars, taken from the returns of the Chapters kindly furnished me by the Scribes, at my request, will show the progress of these Chapters.

Tecumseh Chapter, No. 24, meets at Stratford. This Chapter has a membership of 34, average attendance during the year, exclusive of visitors, 10. During the year the Z. has conferred the whole of the Degrees, assisted by the P. Z., on two candidates, Regular convocations 9, total 9. The cash has been paid over promptly to the Treasurer, and receipt taken for same. The Treasurer holds the money; no money in bank. The amount of dues per year is \$3.00. There are five companions over one year in arrears, one over two, two over five years, total amount of arrears \$94.00. No furniture only regalia, no insurance, an inventory is not kept. The hall is suitable. The Chapter was represented at Grand Chapter by proxy. The prospects of the Chapter are fair. The Scribe, V. E. Comp. I, Baker, keeps his books in excellent style.

Huron Chapter, No. 30, meets at Goderich. This Chapter has a membership of 45. The average attendance, exclusive of visitors, is 13. I visited on January 17th, 1888; I installed the officers, assisted by R. E. Comp. Toms, and R. E. Comp. Radcliffe. During the year the Z. has exemplified all the degrees. Regular convocations held 9, total 9. The condition of the Scribe E.'s books are splendid. Treasurer's books are well kept. The cash is promptly paid over to the Treasurer, all funds deposited in bank. The furniture is valued at \$300, is insured for \$200.00; an inventory is not kept. The Hall is suitable. The Chapter was represented at Grand Chapter by proper officers. The prospects of this Chapter are good.

Havelock Chapter, No. 63, meets at Kincardine. This Chapter has a membership of 45. The average attendance, exclusive of visitors, is 15. During the year the Z. has exemplified all the degrees with actual work. Regular convocations

held 12, emergent 3, total 15. H. conferred M. E. M. on four candidates ; J. conferred M. M. M. on three. The cash is paid over promptly to the Treasurer, and deposited in the bank to the credit of the Treasurer. Dues per year \$3.00 and \$1.50. The dues outstanding—companions in arrears over one year 1, over two years 2, is the longest. The furniture is valued at \$650, is insured for \$500; assets \$170, liabilities nil. The Hall is suitable. The Chapter was represented at last Grand Chapter by proxy, R. E. Comp. David McLellan, G. S. E. The prospects of this Chapter are bright. R. E. Comp. DeWitt H. Martyn is the First Principal this year, and the Chapter is bound to flourish, as he is one of the talented and efficient officers of the District.

The Malloch Chapter, No. 66, meets at Clinton. This Chapter has a membership of 34 ; average attendance, exclusive of visitors, is 15. I visited on January 27th, 1888. I installed the officers, assisted by R. E. Comp. Toms, Radcliffe and Malloch. Regular convocations have been 5, emergent 1, total 6. The funds are deposited in bank in name of S. E., who also acts as Treasurer. Annual fees are \$3, and companions more than five miles \$1.50. There are three companions in arrears over one year, two over 4 years. The furniture is insured for \$300. The assets are \$100, liabilities nil. The Chapter was not represented at last Grand Chapter at all. The prospects are very fair.

Lebanon Chapter, No. 84. meets at Wingham. This Chapter has a membership of 32 ; average attendance, exclusive of visitors, 9. I visited this Chapter March 19th, 1888, and installed the officers, assisted by R. E. Comp. DeWitt H. Martyn, of Kincardine. Regular convocations held 3, emergent 2, total 5. The cash is paid over promptly to Treasurer ; funds all deposited in bank in name of Treasurer, amount not stated. Dues per year \$3. The companions in arrears over one year 1, over two years 6, over three years 7. The assets are \$300 ; liabilities \$100 ; value of furniture about \$300, not insured. The Hall is suitable. The Chapter was not represented at Grand Chapter last year. The prospects of the Chapter are very good. This Chapter was reported by the Grand Superintendent last year as nearly dormant, but I have pleasure in stating that they have three live men for Principals, viz., Comp J. A. Morton, barrister, and one of the leading men of the town, First Principal ; Comp. J. Dickenson, also a barrister, and one of the leaders of the Bar in the county, as H. ;

Comp. Captain C. E. Williams, one of the most popular young men in the county, as J. With such an array of talent, there is good reason to believe that next year the report of the Chapter will be satisfactory even to Grand Chapter.

Exeter Chapter, No. 85, meets at Exeter. I visited this Chapter, Feb'y 8th, 1888. The P. Z. was in the chair, and conferred the M. M. M. on a candidate; he did it very well. V. E. Comp. M. Eacrett, has always been an able and efficient officer. I did not get a report from this Chapter. but I believe it is doing about as well as the other Chapters in the District.

DISPENSATIONS.

I received a communication from Lebanon Chaptes, No. 84, Wingham, asking for a dispensation to install as Z. or First Principal, Comp. J. A. Morton, not being in H. or Second Principal's chair, he being a P. J. I recommended and the Most Ex. Grand Z. granted it. I also recommended a dispensation to Tecumseh Chapter, No. 24, Stratford, To wear Royal Arch clothing in procession to church. The Most Ex. Grand Z. granted this also.

OBITUARY.

It is my painful duty to report the death of one of Clinton's brightest Masons, V. Comp. W. F. Murray, who died on the 25th of Jan'y, 1888, aged 69 years. Bro. Murray was connected with Barton Lodge, Hamilton, first W. M. of Strict Observance Lodge, P. Z. of Hiram Royal Arch Chapter, Hamilton, has been a P. G. Officer of Grand Lodge, and also P. G. Steward of Grand Chapter. At the time of his death he was Secretary of Clinton Lodge, No. 84, and Scribe of Malloch Chapter, No. 66. The funeral was under the auspices of Masonic Lodge and Chapter of Clinton. A large number of brethren from Goderich, Seaforth, and Blythe were present.

The greatest harmony prevails throughout the district, not a single complaint of any kind having reached me during the year. I cannot close this report without expressing my sincere thanks to the companions of all the Chapters for many courtesies extended to me during the year.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

JOSEPH BECK,
Grand Supt. Huron District.

Goderich, July 9th, 1888.

NIAGARA DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

I have the honor of submitting the following report upon the condition of Capitular Masonry in the Niagara District. After the able and exhaustive report presented last year by my efficient and painstaking predecessor, R. E. Comp. J. M. Clement, a long report would be out of place, as but comparatively few changes have been made during the year.

I visited all the Chapters in the district, and I am happy to state that I found most, if not all, of them in a very satisfactory condition, both as regards pecuniary standing and prospective development. In Mount Moriah Chapter, St. Catharines, much interest in the Order is shown by the officers, but they are hardly supported and encouraged by such attendance of members as they ought to be.

King Hiram Chapter, Port Colborne, is in a most efficient and flourishing condition.

Grimsby and Niagara Chapters maintain their ancient reputation. This is only what might be expected with R. Ex. Comp. Forbes in the one, and R. Ex. Comp. Clement in the other. Indeed, if all Chapters would adopt the practice of Grimsby Chapter in having instruction meetings prior to their regular meetings much good, I am convinced, would be the result. The work, so far as I have had an opportunity of judging, is well and impressively done.

All the Chapters will be found clear upon the books of the Grand Chapter at the commencement of the new fiscal year.

I am happy to say that peace and good-will seem to live and rule in all the Chapters of the district. I take this opportunity of returning my warm and unfeigned thanks to the officers and companions of all the Chapters, for the friendly and courteous manner in which I was received upon my official visits. I sincerely hope that my successor may find his duties as easy and pleasant as I have done.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

J. MURISON DUNN,
Grand Supt. Niagara District.

Welland, July 5th, 1888.

TORONTO DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

I have the honor to submit the following report on the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in the Toronto District :

Having been unavoidably absent from Grand Chapter during the installation ceremony, Most Ex. Comp. Spry, P.G.Z., kindly consented to install me as Grand Superintendent of the district. For that purpose I proceeded to Barrie shortly after the annual convocation of Grand Chapter, where the M. E. Companion, assisted by M. E. Comp. Menet of Toronto, R. E. Comp. Stevenson of Barrie, and the officers and members of Signet Chapter, No. 34, impressively performed the ceremony.

My first official act was the appointment of E. Comp. Thomas Ratcliff, Z., of Doric Chapter, No. 60, Newmarket, as District Secretary, and I have had no reason to regret the choice made.

This being the largest district in the Province, consisting of no less than fourteen Chapters spread over four great counties, I felt at the outset that it would be impossible for me to visit all the Chapters during my term of office, I therefore resolved to hold two Chapters of Instruction for the exemplification of the four degrees in Royal Arch Masonry, one in the northern part of the district, more particularly in the interests of country Chapters, and the other in Toronto for the benefit of city Chapters. That programme was carried out.

The first Chapter of Instruction was held at Barrie, on the 2nd of December last, under the auspices of Signet Chapter, No. 34. The attendance of members of neighboring Chapters was fair, but, owing to the inclemency of the weather, was not as large as I anticipated. The Mark Master's and Past Master's degrees were carefully and impressively conferred by Ex. Comp. George Monkman, Z., and the officers of Signet Chapter, while the Most Excellent Master's degree was ably exemplified by E. Comp. Ratcliff, Z., and the officers of Doric Chapter, No. 60, Newmarket. I deemed it my duty to confer the Royal Arch Degree myself, and in doing so I was ably assisted by the officers of my own Chapter, Doric, No. 60. I was greatly indebted to M. E. Comp. Spry, and R. E. Comp. Stevenson for advice and assistance in the management of the

Chapter of Instruction, and also to the officers and members of Signet Chapter for their kindness and hospitality to myself and visiting companions.

The second Chapter of Instruction was held in the Masonic Hall, Toronto, on Friday, the 20th of April, under the auspices of St. Andrew's and St. John's Chapter, No. 4. The attendance was very large—every Chapter in the city, and many in the country being represented. Ex. Comp. Williams, Z., and the officers of St. Andrew's and St. John's Chapter conferred the Mark Master's degree in a very satisfactory manner, while Ex. Comp. Manley, Z., and the officers of St. Paul's Chapter, No. 65, left nothing to be desired in the exemplification of the Past Master's degree. Ex. Comp. Ratcliff, of Doric Chapter, again conferred the Most Excellent Master's degree, while the work of exemplifying the Holy Royal Arch degree once more fell to me. In this, as in the former Chapter of Instruction, I was supported by the officers of Doric Chapter, No. 60, and it is at once a duty and a pleasure to officially acknowledge my great indebtedness to them for valuable assistance rendered me on this and many other occasions during my year of office. M. E. Comp. Thomas Sargant, acting G. Z., kindly attended the convocation and rendered me material aid by his advice and rulings on unexplained points in the ritual. M. E. Comp. F. J. Menet, and R. E. Companions S. Porter, J. A. Wills, Alex. Patterson, and V. E. Comp. T. F. Blackwood also favored me with their presence and assistance. After the labors of the evening were over, the visiting Companions were hospitably entertained by the members of St. Andrew's and St. John's Chapter. I regard these Chapters of Instruction as unqualified successes, and believe they will be productive of much good to Royal Arch Masonry in the Toronto District.

Application having been made by certain companions in Brampton early in the year for a dispensation to establish a Chapter in that town I endorsed with pleasure, and it was granted by the G. Z. I also recommended, and the recommendation was approved, that the following dispensations be granted: Orient Chapter, No. 79, to install the Third as First Principal; Occident Chapter, No. 77, to install the Third as First Principal; and a companion who had not filled the chair of J. as Second Principal. I also granted dispensations to Antiquity Chapter, No. 91, and Macpherson Chapter, No. 87, to appear in public clothed as Royal Arch Masons. Though I have made some effort in the direction of resuscitating Seymour

Chapter, No. 38, Bradford, I regret to say it has been unavailing. It looks now as if the warrant would have to be surrendered.

I am happy to be able to report that Royal Arch Masonry is in a healthy condition in the Toronto District ; peace and harmony generally prevail, and I have only had one complaint made to me during the year. Owing to the pressure of multifarious duties I have been unable to dispose of that charge, and I regret to say that I shall have to leave its investigation to my successor. I cannot close without thanking the companions of the various Chapters in the District for the courtesies extended to me in making my official visits.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

J. H. WIDDIFIELD,
Grand Supt. Toronto District.

Newmarket, July 7th, 1888.

ONTARIO DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent, the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons.

I have the honor to submit my report on the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in the Ontario District for the past year.

I have much pleasure in reporting that all the Chapters in this District are in a prosperous condition, with one exception, viz: Excelsior Chapter, No. 45, Colborne. The majority of them have been adding to the number of their members, the officers are striving to perfect themselves in their work, and instructing the companions in their duties, and there seems to be a marked progress within the year. With regard to Excelsior Chapter, No. 45, it has been practically dormant for many years. Many of the members have removed from the locality, and no meetings have been held for some time, from the difficulty in getting together a sufficient number of members to open the Chapter. I tried to get them to call a meeting that I might confer with them on their future action, but did not succeed. There seems to be little prospect of any improvement in this respect. I would recommend that the members remaining be permitted to dimit, and that the warrant be surrendered.

Pentalpha Chapter, No. 28, meets at Bowmanville. This

Chapter has a membership of 30. The average attendance exclusive of visitors is 10. I visited this Chapter 11th of May, 1888, and installed the officers. On the occasion of my visit there were no degrees exemplified. The work of Z., H., J., and P. S. was fairly good. During the year the Z. has exemplified the work in all the degrees, H. do, J. do, and P. Z. do. Eight regular convocations have been held. Three were missed as the Chapter was called off for three months, and one from want of a quorum. The condition of S. E.'s and Treasurer's books is good. The cash is paid over promptly to the Treasurer, and deposited in Bank in his name as Treasurer of the Chapter. The arrears are not stated. Assets \$206.00. Liabilities nil. Value of furniture \$189.00. The hall is suitable. The Chapter was represented at Grand Chapter by Ex. Comp. McCaw, P.Z. The prospects of the Chapter are good, as the place of meeting has been changed from Oshawa to Bowmanville, where there is abundance of good material connected with the large manufacturing works.

Keystone Chapter, No. 35, meets at Whitby. This Chapter has a membership of 24. Average attendance without visitors, 11. I was not able to visit this Chapter on the occasion that I notified the S. E., as the Chapter had been called off for three months, and will not resume meetings until September. Chapter was visited by the P. G. Supt., who informed me that the quality of the work of Z., H., J., and P. S. is excellent. During the year the Z., H., J., and P. Z.'s have exemplified all the degrees. 9 Regular and 7 Emergent convocations have been held. 3 have been called off. The condition of the S. E.'s and Treasurer's books is good. The cash is paid over promptly to the Treasurer, and is deposited in Bank in his name as Treasurer of the Chapter. No dues out standing over one year. The furniture is valued at \$200.00. Inventory kept. Liabilities none. The hall is suitable. Chapter was represented at Grand Chapter by Z. The prospects of the Chapter are improved as the removal of Pentalpha Chapter has given them a larger territory.

Corinthian Chapter, No. 36, meets at Bowmanville. This Chapter has a membership of 61, the average attendance, exclusive of visitors, is 12. I visited on May 15th, 1888. On the occasion of my visit the P. M. Degree was exemplified by the officers of the Chapter, who had been installed about a month before. The quality of the work of the Z., H., J. and P. S. was good. During the year the Z., H., J. and P. S. and

and P.Z. have exemplified the work in all the degrees. Eleven regular convocations were held during the year, one was missed on account of the new hall to which Chapter removed not being complete in time for meeting. The condition of the S. E.'s and Treasurer's books is very good. The cash is paid over promptly to the Treasurer and deposited in bank to credit of Chapter. There are no companions in arrears over one year, 22 over two 4 over three. The furniture is valued at \$1000; it is insured for \$600; inventory is kept outside of Chapter room. The Hall is suitable, having been built expressly for Masonic purposes. The Chapter was represented at Grand Chapter by the Z. and two P. Z.'s. The prospects for the future prosperity of this Chapter are good.

Victoria Chapter, No. 37, Port Hope. This Chapter has a membership of 24. Average attendance, without visitors, 10. I visited this Chapter on May 10th, 1888. The R. A. degree was exemplified. The quality of the work of the Z. H., J. and P. S. was very good. During the year no candidates have been received, but the several officers have exemplified the work in the various degrees. Four regular meetings were held during the year; eight were missed on account of a number of the members having been away from home most of the time. The condition of the S. E.'s and Treasurer's books, well kept. The cash is promptly paid over to the Treasurer, and deposited in a bank in the name of the Treasurer. Companions in arrears over one year 9, over two 7, over three 6, over four 3, over five 3; longest period any companion is in arrears is 10½ years. Assets \$199.98; liabilities none. Value of furniture \$400, insured for \$200. No inventory kept outside of Chapter room. Hall is suitable. The Chapter was represented at Grand Chapter by R. E. Comp. Doeblor, P. Z. The prospects of the Chapter are good.

St. John's Chapter, No. 48, meets at Cobourg. Membership 27, average attendance, without visitors, 11. I have visited every convocation held during the year, having been Z. during first six months. All the degrees were exemplified during the year by the Z., H., J., and P. S. is very good. 11 Regular Convocations were held during the year, 1 was missed for want of a quorum. The condition of the S. E.'s and Treasurer's books is good. Cash is paid over promptly to the Treasurer and deposited in Bank in name of Chapter. 6 Companions in arrears over one year, over two none. The furniture is valued at \$300 00, insured for \$300.00, an inventory is kept outside of

Chapter room. The assets are \$60.00, Liabilities none. The Hall is suitable. The Chapter was represented at Grand Chapter by Z. The prospects of the Chapter are good.

Midland Chapter, No. 94, meets at Lindsay. This Chapter has a membership of 18; average attendance, without visitors, 15. I visited on July 10th, 1888. On the occasion of my visit the M. M. degree was exemplified. The quality of the work of the Z., H., J. and P. S. is good. During the year the Z. H., J. and P. S. have exemplified all the degrees. The Chapter being new, there are no P. Z's. except the present Z, Twelve regular convocations and six emergent have been held. The condition of the S. E.'s and Treasurer's books, well kept. The cash is paid over promptly to the Treasurer, and deposited in bank in his name as Treasurer. No dues outstanding over one year. The furniture is valued at \$300, is insured for \$300. An inventory is kept in Chapter room. Hall is suitable. Assets \$300, liabilities \$50. The Chapter was represented at Grand Chapter by the Z. The prospects of the Chapter are good.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

D. McNAUGHTON,
Grand Supt. Ontario District.

Cobourg, 5th July, 1888.

PRINCE EDWARD DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada,

I have the honor to present herewith my second annual report as the Superintendent of Prince Edward District.

Mount Sinai Chapter, No. 44, meets at Napanee. This Chapter has a membership of 41. The average attendance, exclusive of visitors, is 17. I visited this Chapter on the 4th of June, 1888, and installed the officers. There was no work to be done on the night of my visit, but I am in a position to state that R. E. Comp. Walters, the re-elected Z. always does his work in a most satisfactory manner. During the year the R. E. Z. has exemplified all the degrees, five times. None of the degrees were conferred by either the H. or J. Regular Convocations have been held eight times, and two Emergent meetings have been held. The Scribe E.'s and the Treasurer's books are well kept. The cash receipts are promptly paid over to the Treasurer, but not deposited in a Bank. The dues are

\$1.50 per year. There are six companions in arrears over one four over two years, three over three years, one over four years, and one over five years, the longest period any companion is in arrears. The furniture is owned by and rented from the Blue Lodge. The Chapter property is valued at \$500.00, insured for \$300.00. An inventory is kept in the hands of the Z. The assets are \$200.00 and the liabilities none. The Hall is suitable. The Chapter was represented at Grand Chapter by R. E. Comp. Walters. The prospects of the Chapter are good.

DISPENSATIONS.

On the 9th of Feb'y, 1888. I granted a dispensation to the companions of this Chapter to appear in R. A. Regalia at a Masonic banquet held on 24th Feb'y, 1888, and on June 2nd a dispensation to appear in R. A. Regalia while attending Divine service on June 24th, 1888.

Prince Edward, No. 31, meets at Picton. The Chapter has a membership of 56. The average attendance is 15. A number of companions are living in distant parts of the Dominion, and wish to retain membership with their mother Chapter. Having visited the Chapter last year, and hearing that it is under the immediate supervision of the Past Grand Z., D. Ross, I did not consider it necessary to visit it this year. The Past Grand Z. who is Scribe E. has reported to me that the work of the Z. H. J., and P. S. is exemplified in accordance with the latest Grand Chapter regulations. Regular communications are held monthly. The books of the Chapter are properly kept. Five members have been exalted during the year, one died and one took his dimit. The hall is well furnished, beautifully decorated, and in all respects well adapted for a Chapter. The Chapter was represented at last convocation by the Z. and J. The prospects of the Chapter are good.

Moir Chapter, No. 7, meets at Belleville. The Chapter has a membership of 91. The average attendance is 22. I visit this Chapter frequently. The Z., H., J. and P. S. do their work in a manner which leaves nothing to be desired. The Z. exemplified the work of the Royal Arch degree. The P. Z. does the work of the intermediate degrees. During the year five regular and one special meeting for the intermediate degrees have been held; for the Royal Arch degree eight regular and one special meeting have been held. The Scribe E.'s and Treasurer's books are properly kept. The cash is promptly

paid over to the Treasurer and deposited in a bank to the credit of the Treasurer. Dues per year are \$2.00. There are nine companions over one year in arrears, six over two years and two over five years. The longest period any companion is in arrears is eight years. The furniture is valued at \$700.00, and is insured for \$500.00. The Chapter owns the hall and furniture and has \$250 in cash on hand. There are no liabilities. The hall is suitable, being built and frescoed solely for Chapter purposes. The Chapter was represented at Grand Chapter by R. E. Comp. J. J. Farley. The prospects of the Chapter are bright.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

JOHN J. FARLEY,
Grand Supt. Prince Edward District.

Brigade Camp,
Gananoque, June 21st, 1888.

CENTRAL DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

I have the honor to submit my report on the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in the Central District. I have great pleasure in reporting that the Royal Arch Chapters within my jurisdiction, taken on the whole, are in a prosperous condition.

Ancient Frontenac and Cataraqui, No. 1. I regret that I have been unable to visit this Chapter, which is the largest in the district, but I have received information from the S. E. of eight regular meetings being held during the past year. Average attendance 11. Number of members on books, May 31st, 92 in good standing.

Carleton Chapter, No. 16. This Chapter is losing none of its former reputation. Some difficulty arose at the time of the last election, but I am pleased to report that the matter has been amicably settled, and the Chapter is working again with its old time prosperity. I installed the officers on Thursday, March 15th, and was received in a most fraternal manner by the officers and companions. Meetings held during the past year, nine regular and four emergent. The average number of members in attendance, 16; number of members on roll, 78. R. E. Comp. Kerr and Comp. Lambkin, both members of this Chapter, died during the year.

Grenville Chapter, No. 28. This Chapter is doing well, having held twelve regular and one emergent meeting during the past year. The average number of members in attendance, 12. I visited this Chapter on June 12th and witnessed the conferring of the Mark degree, which was very creditably done. The degree was conferred by Ex. Comp. Fields, P. Z., ably assisted by the officers. I was received in a very kind manner by the officers and companions; and am glad to say that the Chapter is in a prosperous condition.

Pembroke Chapter, No. 58. I regret that I have been unable to make any progress with this Chapter. I communicated with Comp. J. H. Burritt as to the number of companions and whether they were ready for me to install their officers and assist in starting their Chapter. On the 25th of November I received a reply, stating that it was impossible to get the companions together at present.

Sussex Chapter, No. 59. This Chapter is now one of the best Chapters in this district, having held eleven regular and five emergent meetings. The average number of members in attendance is 15. The officers are all well up in their work on the whole. This Chapter is in a prosperous condition.

Granite Chapter, No. 61. I have not been able to visit this Chapter, but from information received it is making steady progress.

Maitland Chapter, No. 68. This Chapter, which has been located at North Augusta, in what I consider a much better field than Maitland. On the 9th of February last I, with the kind assistance of a number of officers and companions of Sussex Chapter, visited North Augusta and installed the officers and conferred the several degrees and exalted four companions. This Chapter will give a good account of its work in the near future.

There have been five dispensations granted in this district during the past year, viz.: 3 to Carleton Chapter, No. 16; 1 to Grenville Chapter, No. 22; and 1 to Sussex Chapter, No. 59.

In closing my report I wish to express my sincere thanks to R. Ex. Comp. David McLellan, Grand S. E., for his kind assistance, and the companions of this district for their courtesy towards me during my term of office.

All of which is fraternally submitted, GEO. GALE,

Grand Supt. Central District.

Brockville, July 4th, 1888.

MANITOBA DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

Herewith I have the honor of presenting, for the information of the Grand Chapter, my report on the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in the Manitoba District.

Prince Rupert Chapter, No. 52, Winnipeg, meets at Freemasons' Hall, city of Winnipeg, 1st Thursday of each month; present membership, 122; 33 new members; 14 suspensions for non-payment of dues; 4 withdrawals. The average attendance, exclusive of visitors, is 25; meetings held, regular 12, emergent 15, total 27. I attended every meeting, regular and emergent, during the year, but two, when I was detained, once through illness in my family, and once through business engagements. I visited once officially March 1st, 1888. The Mark Master's degree was exemplified by Ex. Comp. W. G. Bell, Past Z., in a very impressive manner. All the officers were pretty well up on that occasion. During the year Ex. Comp. Bell has exemplified the Mark Master's and the Royal Arch degrees. Ex. Comp. Thos. Robinson exemplifies the Most Excellent and Royal Arch degrees in a manner that cannot be excelled. Ex. Comp. T. W. Leggo exemplifies the Past Master's degree and does excellent work. Comp. W. A. Windatt is an estimable Principal Sojourner. All the other officers do their work well. The Chapter is indebted to the veteran Mason, Ex. Comp. Hursell, who, although nearly seventy years of age, never misses a meeting, and can give any lecture when called on without notice. He has a wonderful memory. The Chapter is also indebted to Ex. Comp. J. S. Hurst, who would have been our Second Principal, only that he expected to leave the city for Brandon. This necessitated asking a dispensation for Comp. Leggo, who has been Principal Sojourner. The G. Z. very kindly granted the dispensation. The Scribe E.'s and Treasurer's books are carefully and accurately kept; cash paid promptly to Treasurer and deposited in a chartered bank in Chapter's name, and chequed out on signature of Z. and Treasurer's names. Number of companions in arrears one year, 26; two years, 13; three years, 4; four years, 4; longest period any companion is in arrears, four years. Cash on hand \$500.00, which will shortly be invested in Manitoba Permanent Mortgage Co'y stock, is now bearing interest in bank. The furniture is owned by five Craft Lodges

and the Chapter holding one-sixth interest. Chapter pays \$11.00 per month for hall, heating and lighting to Winnipeg Freemasons' Hall Board. The appointments and paraphernalia are perfect. I have to regret 14 suspensions for N. P. D., but have reason to believe that a number will pay and resume membership. The Chapter furniture, as well as that belonging the Hall Board, is insured—the Chapter property for \$650.00—inventory is kept outside the hall. The hall is suitable. The Chapter was represented at Grand Chapter, 1887, by M. E. Comp. Thos. Sargant, Proxy. This year (1888) will be represented by myself as Proxy. I installed the officers at the first meeting in January, assisted by Ex. Comp. W. G. Bell and Ex. Comp. Hursell. After the installation of officers, Ex. Comp. Thos. Robinson presented a beautiful Past Principal's jewel to Ex. Comp. W. G. Bell as a slight acknowledgement of many services cheerfully rendered the Chapter. To Ex. Comp. Bell is mainly due the progress the Chapter has made in the last two years. I also presented the Chapter with a case containing the implements of the various degrees as a slight token of kindness received at their hands. About one hundred American Knights Templar in full uniform visited Albert Edward Preceptory, June 22nd, staying until the 25th. The Royal Arch degree was exemplified by Ex. Comp. Robinson, Z.; Ex. Comp. Leggo, H.; and Ex. Comp. Hurst, J.; Comp. W. A. Windatt, Principal Sojourner. The visitors expressed themselves as delighted with the work. I was invited as representative of Grand Chapter of Canada to a banquet at the Leland House in honor of the visitors from the neighboring states. It was a great success. The toast of Grand Chapter of Canada, Royal Arch Masons, was very warmly received. Many of the American visitors were born in Canada. I gave a dispensation to permit Prince Rupert Chapter to attend Divine service at Christ's Church. The Craft Lodges, Chapters, and Knights Templar, numbering in all about 500, listened to a sermon by our esteemed Grand Chaplain, Rev. Canon O'Meara. This sermon has done a great deal of good to Freemasonry. I also telegraphed permission to the Royal Arch Masons at Prince Albert to wear Royal Arch clothing at the laying of a corner-stone of a college. The Grand Master of Manitoba gave permission to Prince Albert Lodge to wear Masonic clothing for the same purpose. There is no Chapter there. I expect Chapters will be established in Manitoba and the North-West Territories this year. I do not think it is good policy to establish Chapters until towns get well established and in good circumstances. I think Prince

Rupert Chapter will continue to prosper. The members are mostly young and energetic. While there are enough old energetic Masons to keep them well balanced ; they guard the ballot carefully ; no intoxicating beverages are permitted at the refreshment table.

Shuniah Chapter, No. 82, Port Arthur. Meets at Port Arthur Freemasons' Hall, Friday evening on or before full moon; membership 37, average attendance, exclusive of visitors 11. Official visit June 26th, 1888. The Royal Arch Degree was exemplified by Ex. Comp. Ray, Past Z. in a perfect manner, Ex. Comp. Thompson as Principal Sojourner is an able officer, The Masters of veils are also exceedingly good. The work in all degrees is principally done by Ex. Comps. Ray and Thompson. Meetings held, regular 6, emergent 4, regular convocations were missed owing to the absence of Ex. Comp. Ray in Europe, when it was sometimes difficulty to obtain a council. The Scribe E.'s and Treasurer's books are carefully and accurately kept. The Scribe is one of the most painstaking and careful officers in the district. I received notices of all meetings, and he promptly answered all communications. Cash is paid over promptly to the Treasurer, and deposited in a Bank to the credit of Chapter, and chequed out on Treasurer's and Z's signature. The dues are collected close up. Value of furniture \$150, no insurance, but I drew their attention to that, and it is doubtless insured ere this. Cash on hand in Bank \$191.00, no liabilities. Hall is owned by a joint stock company of Masons, only one outside the Craft holding any stock. It is a large stone building, two stories, every convenience, and extra well furnished. The Chapter needs banners ; this will likely be attended to soon. Inventory is kept of the furniture. Chapter was represented at Grand Chapter by Ex. Comp. Thompson, a member of Shuniah Chapter, who I think will represent them this year. This Chapter has a first class membership. They evidently believe in keeping up the standard. It is looked upon as a great honor to be a Mason at Port Arthur, and if they guard their ballot box, and scrutinize all Masons in the future as in the past, the Port Arthur Masons will always be as they are, an honor to Canada. This Chapter has splendid prospects. This will be a large city at no distant date. Port Arthur will prosper as the great western country fills up with settlers, and there will be many Chapters here yet I wish to thank Ex. Comp. Ray, Mitchell, Clarke, and Thompson, and the Companions of Shuniah Chapter generally for the very kind reception given to

me personally as the Grand Supt. of Manitoba District. This Chapter has been in existence eleven years, and I have the honor of being the first Grand Supt. to visit them. I was met at the station by the companions, and escorted to the Northern Hotel, and a suite of rooms put at my disposal, drives to all the points of interest in the neighborhood, and everything done to make my visit pleasant and enjoyable. Their hospitality is unbounded. They also wished to pay my railway fare to and from Port Arthur. This I would not consent to take as I was on my way to Grand Chapter, and Eastern Canada on private business. I shall always remember my visit to Port Arthur with pleasure, and trust the friendships I have made there will endure through life.

Golden Chapter, No. 90, Rat Portage. I am sorry that I was unable to visit this Chapter. I wrote several letters to the Scribe E. asking him to let me know when to come, but failed to elicit a reply. I wrote to Ex. Comp. Ferguson who replied promptly, but it was then too late for me to go. He notified the Scribe to send me a report, but it failed to come. No doubt this Chapter would have been in much better shape had it not been for the absence of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Principals, who are officers of the 96th Battalion, at a school of military instruction for some months. This will not likely occur again, and with the Keewatin Lodge three miles distant to draw material from, will no doubt have a period of great success. Rat Portage and Keewatin will no doubt be large manufacturing centres, the water powers there being practically unlimited. The Freemasons have a hall of their own, well furnished, which I know they keep insured. I do not think they held an election of officers last year, owing to the absence of the Council. They spoke of getting a dispensation to hold an election out of time, but have not heard anything of it for some time. This is a large district and very expensive to travel in, and I trust the Chapters will not recommend any Ex. Comp. for Grand Supt. who does not get up the work himself. There are many points in the secret work difficult to find out for Masons who are situated so far away as we are, and I hope the Royal Arch degree may be conferred at Grand Chapter in Toronto this year. The Manitoba District owns the Grand Superintendent's regalia, consisting of apron, sash and collar, as well as the case which contains them.

In conclusion, I tender to every companion in Manitoba District my heartfelt thanks for many kindnesses, and their

courteous attention to me during my year of office. I also wish to thank R. Ex. Comp. David McLellan for his kindness and courtesy, and express the wish that he may long see fit to retain the office of Grand Scribe E.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

JOHN LESLIE,
Grand Supt., Manitoba District.

Winnipeg, July 6th, 1888.

It was moved by M. E. Comp. Fred. J. Menet, seconded by R. E. Comp. R. B. Hungerford, and

Resolved, That the reports of the Grand Superintendents of Districts be referred to the Executive Committee to report thereon during the present convocation of Grand Chapter.

R. E. Comp. David McLellan, Grand Scribe E., submitted his annual and cash statements of moneys received during the year, together with the books, etc.

R. E. Comp. Edward Mitchell, Grand Treasurer, submitted his annual statement of receipts and disbursements, with vouchers attached,

ANNUAL STATEMENT, JUNE 30TH, 1888.

DAVID MCLELLAN, G. S. E., in account with Grand Chapter.

No. 1—Ancie't Frontenac and Cataraqui..\$	18 90	Brought forward....	\$908 00
" 2—The Hiram.....	42 40	" 61—Granite.....	11 40
" 3—St. John's.....	36 40	" 62—York.....	5 00
" 5—St. George's... ..	14 90	" 63—Havelock.....	24 00
" 6—St. John's.....	47 10	" 65—St. Paul's.....	59 30
" 7—Moir.....	47 80	" 68—Maitland.....	1 00
" 8—King Solomon's..	49 20	" 70—Grand River....	20
" 15—Wawanosh... ..	27 50	" 71—Prince of Wales..	14 20
" 16—Carleton.....	28 30	" 75—St. Clair.....	11 40
" 19—Mount Moriah..	34 60	" 76—Mount Nebo....	5 60
" 20—Mount Horeb... ..	5 40	" 77—Occident.....	25 70
" 22—Grenville.....	32 40	" 79—Orient.....	30 80
" 24—Tecumseh.....	16 60	" 80—Ark.....	64 80
" 27—Manitou.....	9 60	" 81—Aylmer.....	14 40
" 28—Pentalpha.....	32 60	" 82—Shuniah.....	1 00
" 30—Huron.....	9 00	" 83—Ionic.....	14 00
" 31—Prince Edward..	23 10	" 84—Lebanon.....	19 80
" 34—Signet.....	30 20	" 85—Exeter.....	6 50
" 35—Keystone.....	51 60	" 86—Macpherson....	4 80
" 36—Corinthian.....	13 60	" 87—Wentworth....	1 00
" 37—Victoria.....	4 80	" 88—Macnabb.....	13 00
" 39—Botsford.....	12 80	" 90—Golden.....	13 40
" 40—Guelph.....	33 00	" 91—Antiquity.....	52 00
" 41—Harris.....	16 60	" 93—Metropolitan..	28 22
" 44—Mount Sinai....	23 70	" 94—Midland.....	42 00
" 47—Wellington.....	15 20	U.D. Tuscan.....	89 00
" 48—St. John's....	12 40	U.D. Australasian Kilwing	50 00
" 49—Elora.....	7 90	U.D. City of Melbourne..	50 00
" 52—Prince Rupert..	121 60	Constitution.....	20
" 54—Palestine....	26 80	Ceremonies.....	18 00
" 56—Georgian.....	16 30	Bank Interest.....	28 12
" 57—King Hiram....	18 40	Toronto Gen. Trust Co..	75 00
" 59—Sussex.....	18 10	Land Security.....	453 00
" 60—Doric.....	9 20	West. Can. Loan Deb.,..	112 50
	\$908 00		\$2247 33

E. MITCHELL, GRAND TREASURER, IN ACCOUNT WITH GRAND CHAPTER, R. A. M.

1887.

DR.

July	1—	To	Balance as per statement, 30th June, 1887	\$1,774	06
"	30—	"	Grand Scribe E	160	30
Aug.	31—	"	"	10	80
Sept.	30—	"	"	5	00
Oct.	31—	"	"	20	40
Nov.	30—	"	"	87	00
"	30—	"	interest on bank account.....	13	90
Dec.	31—	"	"	30	00
1888.					
Jan.	4—	"	"	112	50
"	31—	"	"	215	20
Feb.	29—	"	"	126	82
March	31—	"	"	397	00
April	30—	"	"	55	60
May	31—	"	"	167	80
"	31—	"	interest on bank account.....	14	22
June	30—	"	"	830	80

\$4,021 40

1887:

CR:

July	22—	By Order No.	315, John Grant, Grand Janitor ..	\$	5	00
"	22—	"	301, A. McPherson, sundry printing.....		16	75
"	22—	"	302, Grand Scribe E., incidentals.....		25	13
"	22—	"	303, " " " for 1887-8		65	00
"	22—	"	304, Royal Ins. Co., premium on policy....		5	00
"	26—	"	298, G.N.W. Tel. Co., cablegram to Queen ..		7	57
"	26—	"	305, Mrs. T.D. Harington, half-yearly grant ..		20	00
"	26—	"	313, " " " special grant....		60	00
"	28—	"	311, Agnes Cheetham, half-yearly grant....		10	00
"	28—	"	300, Hy Robertson, report For. Correspond ..		50	00
Aug.	1—	"	299, T. Sargent, P.G.Z. incidentals, 1885-7.		50	00
"	2—	"	312, Mrs. Robert Ramsay, half-yearly grant ..		10	00
"	2—	"	310, Mrs. Bartlett, half-yearly grant....		10	00
"	3—	"	316, Land Security Co. on account allotmt ..		75	00
"	4—	"	306, Mrs. Waltho, half-yearly grant..		10	00
"	6—	"	317, Copp, Clark & Co., for warrants.....		15	00
"	11—	"	314, Mrs. S. Bernard, special grant.....		40	00
"	15—	"	307, Arch. Couper, half-yearly grant.....		25	00
"	16—	"	318, A. McPherson, sundry printing.....		188	90
Sept.	3—	"	319, T.G. Foster & Co., testims to T. Sargent ..		225	00
"	10—	"	320, W. Bruce, engr'sing war'nt Midland Ch ..		4	50
"	22—	"	321, S.J. Sargent, testim l to Comp. Mitchell ..		40	00
Oct.	3—	"	323, David McLellan, G.S.E. salary roth inst ..		175	00
"	5—	"	322, Mrs. T.B. Harris, quarterly grant " ..		50	00
Nov.	26—	"	324, W. Bruce, eng. address to Gr. Treasurer ..		37	50
Dec.	2—	"	309, Mrs. McPhail, half-yearly grant.....		20	00
"	13—	"	308, Mrs. McLeod, " " "		10	00
1888.						
Jan.	4—	"	325, D. McLellan, G.S.E. salary to roth inst ..		175	00
"	12—	"	326, Mrs. T.B. Harris, quarterly grant " ..		50	00
"	16—	"	329, Arch. Couper, half-yearly grant.....		25	00
"	16—	"	328, Mrs. Waltho, " " "		10	00
"	17—	"	332, Mrs. M. A. Bartlett, ha f-yearly grant..		10	00
"	19—	"	333, Mrs. Cheetham, " " "		10	00
"	27—	"	331, Mrs. McPhail, " " "		20	00
Feb.	3—	"	330, Mrs. McLeod, " " "		10	00
"	4—	"	327, Mrs. T. D. Harington " " "		20	00
"	17—	"	334, Mrs. R. Ramsay, " " "		10	00
"	29—	"	335, Land Security Co., acct't allotted stock.		75	00
March	3—	"	336, " " " " " " "		420	00
April	3—	"	337, D. McLellan, G.S.E. salary to roth inst ..		175	00
"	10—	"	338, Mrs. T.B. Harris, quarterly grant " ..		50	00
June	4—	"	339, D. McLellan, G.S.E. salary to roth inst ..		175	00
"	5—	"	340, Mrs. T.B. Harris, quarterly grant " ..		50	00
"	30—	By balance.....			1,486	05

\$4,021 40

ASSETS OF GRAND CHAPTER AS AT 30th JUNE 1888.

60 shares Land Security Co. Stock, par value.....	\$ 1,500 00
240 allotted shares Land Security Co., paid thereon.....	780 00
Western Canada Loan and Savings Co., 5 per cent debenture.....	4,500 00
Toronto General Trusts Co., 5 per cent. bond.....	3,000 00
Cash in Canadian Bank of Commerce.....	1,486 05
	<u>\$11,266 05</u>

E. MITCHELL, *Grand Treasurer*

Hamilton, 30th June, 1888.

We hereby certify that the balance at credit of E. Mitchell, Grand Treasurer of the Grand Chapter, in the books of this Branch, at close of business on this date is fourteen hundred and eighty-six dollars and five cents (1,486.05).

WM. ROBERTS, *Manager*.
S. READ, Jr.; *Accountant*.

CASH STATEMENT:

1888.	1887.
June 30—To Receipts. . \$2,247 34	July 30—By Gr. Treas. \$ 160 30
	Aug. 31— “ “ .. 10 80
	Sept. 30— “ “ .. 5 00
	Oct. 31— “ “ .. 20 40
	Nov. 30— “ “ .. 100 90
	Dec. 31— “ “ .. 30 00
	1888.
	Jan. 4— “ “ .. 112 50
	“ 31— “ “ .. 215 20
	Feb. 29— “ “ .. 126 82
	Mar. 31— “ “ .. 397 00
	Apr. 30— “ “ .. 55 60
	May 31— “ “ .. 167 80
	June 1— “ “ .. 14 22
	“ 30— “ “ .. 830 80
<u>\$2,247 34</u>	<u>\$2,247 34</u>

RECAPITULATION.

Certificates	\$ 408 00
Dues	649 42
Registration Fees	266 00
Dispensations	145 00
Warrants	30 00
Constitutions	11 80
Ceremonies	68 50
Interest on Western Canada Loan Co's Deb.	112 50
“ “ Toronto General Trust Bond.	75 00
“ “ “ Land Security Co. Stock.	78 00
Bonus on “ “ “ “ “	375 00
Interest on Bank Deposits	28 12
	<u>\$2,247 34</u>

It was moved by M. E. Comp. Daniel Spry, seconded by R. E. Comp. R. B. Hungerford and

Resolved, That the annual statements of the Grand Scribe E. and Grand Treasurer, be received and referred to the Executive Committee for audit, and to report thereon at the present Convocation.

R. E. Comp. Henry Robertson, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, presented the report of the Committee, which, on motion of M. E. Comp. Fred. J. Menet, seconded by R. E. Comp. R. B. Hungerford, was received and ordered to be printed as an appendix to the proceedings.

Letters and telegrams were then read from R. E. Comps. Chas. L. Beard, Grand Supt. Wilson, Dist., Wm. Hawthorn, Representative of the Grand Chapter of Indiana, and Thos. McCarroll, Grand Registrar regretting their inability to be present at this Convocation, also from

Wm. Roberts Manager of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, notifying the Grand Chapter that from the 24th day of July, 1888 until further notice, the rate of interest on the deposit of Grand Chapter will be at three per cent per annum.

The following reply was received on the 22nd of August, 1887, to the cablegram sent to Her Majesty the Queen at our last annual convocation :

OTTAWA, 16th August, 1887.

SIR,

I am commanded by His Excellency the Governor General to convey to you on behalf of the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Canada, the Queen's thanks for the loyal congratulations contained in their telegram.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

CHARLES J. JONES,

For the Gov. Genl., Secretary.

The Grand Scribe, Grand Chapter of
Royal Arch Masons of Canada,
Hamilton.

A letter from R. E. Comp. York Bramwell, Grand Supt. of the Australian District, acknowledging the receipt of the dispensations for the Australasian Kilwinning and City of Melbourne Chapters, and that he had inducted the officers of these Chapters into their respective chairs, and that he had installed the officers of Metropolitan Chapter, No. 93, on the 19th March 1888, it further stated R. E. Comp. David McLellan had been elected the proxy for Metropolitan Chapter, No. 93, and that Comp Joseph D'Amer Drew, was their unanimous choice for Grand Supt. of the District.

A letter was also read from R. E. Comp. Henry Duffell, the representative of this Grand Chapter, near that of the Grand Chapter of New Brunswick, explaining that owing to severe illness, he had been unable until the present to acknowledge the receipt of his credentials as our Representative, and that on the 25th day of April last, he had the honor of presenting the same to the Grand Chapter of New Brunswick. when he was received with all the honors, M. E. Comp. Peters congratulated him as being the first on the list of Representatives, and this being the first Grand Chapter to acknowledge the independence of the Grand Chapter of New Brunswick. Three hearty cheers were given for the success and prosperity of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

An official letter was then read from the G. S. E. of the Grand Chapter of England, enclosing a copy of the following resolution :

"The Committee have received a report from the Grand Superintendent of Royal Arch Masonry of Victoria, Australia, stating that the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Canada has recently thought fit to establish three Royal Arch Chapters in the Colony of Victoria and that such Chapters are in active work.

The Committee feel it to be their duty to bring this serious matter at once before Grand Chapter and to remind it that the Grand Lodge of England has always held and maintained that the jurisdiction of Colonial and Dominion Grand Lodges cannot be recognized as extending beyond their own territorial limits.

The Committee have therefore to recommend that Grand Chapter should declare these Royal Arch Chapters thus established by the Grand Chapter of Canada in Victoria to be irregular and should direct that the English Royal Arch Chapters in that Colony—of which there are at present eleven—be informed of the same, and ordered to hold no communication with these Canadian Chapters and to refuse admission to their members; and further that a copy of such resolution of Grand Chapter be transmitted to the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Canada for its information.”

The above report was approved and adopted at the convocation of the Supreme Grand Chnpter on the 2nd May, 1888,
Certified.

SHADWELL H. CLERKE,
G. S. E. of Gr. Chap. of England.

Also one from the M. Ex. the

GRAND CHAPTER OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK,
informing this Grand Chapter of the death of Past Grand High Priest M. E. Comp. James E. Morrison, who died in the City of Buffalo, on the 14th June, 1887, age 44.

A memorial was then submitted from a number of the members of Sussex Chapter, No. 59, complaining of the action of the Z. of said Chapter, at a regular convocation held on the 22nd June, 1888, in refusing to allow the minutes of a previous meeting to be confirmed, and also the manner of closing the Chapter that evening.

R. E. Comp. R. B. Hungerford moved, seconded by M. Ex. Comp. Fred. J. Menet, and

Resolved, That the letter of the Grand Scribe E. of England, and the memorial from Sussex Chapter be referred to the Executive Committee to report thereon at this convocation.

In the absence of R. Ex. Comp. I. F. Toms, when called to bring forward his motion, notice of which he gave at the last Annual Convocation, and no other companion being desirous of taking up the same, it was ordered to be struck off the records,

The Executive Committee beg leave to report as follows :

AUDIT AND FINANCE.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

The Committee on Audit and Finance beg to report that they have examined the books of the Grand Scribe E. and Grand Treasurer, up to June 30th, 1888, and find them correct. The receipts and disbursements for the past year has been as follows :

RECEIPTS.

Cash on hand.....	\$1774 06
Certificates.....	408 00
Dues.....	649 42
Registration fees,.....	266 00
Dispensations,.....	145 00
Warrants,.....	30 00
Constitutions,.....	11 80
Ceremonies,.....	68 50
Interest W. C. L. Co. Debenture,.....	112 50
Toronto General Trust Bond,	75 00
Toronto Land Security Co.'s Stock,.....	78 00
“ “ “ “ Bonus,.....	375 00
Interest on Bank deposit,.....	28 12
	\$4021 40

DISBURSEMENTS.

John Grant, Grand Janitor,	\$ 5 00
Grand Scribe E. incidentals,	90 13
Sundry Printing,.....	205 65
Royal Ins. Co.,.....	5 00
Mrs. Harris, benevolent grant, 4 quarters,.....	200 00
Benevolence,	330 00
Testimonial to Past Grand Z.,	225 00
Cablegram to Queen,	7 57
Chairman of Foreign Correspondence,.....	50 00
Wm. Bruce, engrossing warrant.....	4 50
Grand Scribe E. salary	700 00
Grand Z. Incidentals, 1885 to 1887,	50 00
Copp, Clark, & Co., printing warrants,.....	15 00
Testimonial to Grand Treasurer,	77 50
	\$1964 35
Investment acc't Toronto Land Security Co.,.....	570 00
Cash in Bank.....	1486 05
	\$4021 40

ASSETS.

60 Shares Toronto Land Security Co. per value,.....	\$1500 00 @ 245 00	\$3675 00
240 allotted shares, Toronto Land Security Co.,.....	780 00 @ 245 00	1274 00
Western Canada Loan and Savings Co. 5% Deb,.....	4500 00	4500 00
Toronto General Trust Co. 5% Bond	3000 00	3000 00
Cash in Canadian Bank of Commerce,	1486 05	1486 05
	\$11266 05	\$13935 05

LIABILITIES.

Royal Insurance Co.,.....	\$ 5 00
A. McPherson, printing,....	21 00
Chairman Foreign Correspondence,.....	50 00
Rolph, Smith & Co., Certificates,.....	80 00
Grand Scribe E., for incidentals 1888-9,.....	65 00
	\$221 00

The committee agree with the M. E. the Grand Z. in his suggestion that a further investment of \$1000 be made in good debentures as a permanent investment.

JAMES B. NIXON,
Chairman,

It was moved by R. E. Comp. R. B. Hungerford, seconded by R. E. Comp. Jas. B. Nixon, and

Resolved, That the Report of the Executive Committee on Audit and Finance, be received and adopted.

BENEVOLENCE.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

The Executive Committee of the Grand Chapter of R. A. M. of Canada on Benevolence, beg leave to report :

1. That of the five private Chapters, viz., 8, 29, 30, 34, and 44, thorough whose First Principal grants of benevolence were made payable as granted in July, 1887, the following, viz.: No. 30 has made returns as required by rules of Grand Chapter, while the remaining Nos. 8, 29, 34, 44 have failed to make such return in consequence whereof orders for future grants will be withheld until such returns are made.

2. That the applications presented for relief and for which grants are recommended are as follows :

No.	Name of Grantee.	Amt	Through Whom Payable.
1	Widow of J. G. Burns	\$ 30	First Prin. King Solomon's 8, Toronto:
2	Comp. Stephen M. Davies	30	" " Carleton 16, Ottawa.
3	Widow Samuel Waltho	20	" " McCallum 29, Dunnville.
4	Comp. Arch Couper	50	" " " " "
5	Widow Donald McLeod	20	" " Huron 30, Goderich.
6	" Malcolm McPhail	40	" " " " "
7	" Robert Ramsay	20	" " Signet 34, Barrie.
8	" Chas. G. Fortier	30	" " " " "
9	" Francis Bartlett	20	" " Mount Sinai 44, Napanee
10	" John Cheetham	20	" " " " "
		\$280	

OTTO KLOTZ,
Chairman.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. R. B. Hungerford, seconded by R. E. Comp. Otto Klotz, and

Resolved, That the Report of the Executive Committee on Benevolence, be received and adopted.

CONDITION OF CAPITULAR MASONRY.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

The Executive Committee has more than ordinary pleasure in stating that the reports from the Grand Superintendents of St. Clair, London, Wellington, Hamilton, Huron, Niagara, Toronto, Ontario, Prince Edward and Central Districts, indicate that in nearly the entire jurisdiction the condition of Capitular Masonry is most favorable. It is not, perhaps, as prosperous as might be expected, but there is a prospect that the near future will bring the Royal Art closer to the hearts of the Craftsmen who desire admittance to the mysteries taught us in the legend of the Temple Builder.

The reports from the Australian and Wilson Districts have not been received. This is to be regretted, as the work in these Districts is viewed with deep interest by Grand Chapter.

The reports, however, in themselves are all very creditable, and with one or two exceptions written evidently with a desire to conform to the suggestions of your Committee of last year.

They give the information so indispensable in the work of review. Your Committee has given these reports careful perusal, and feels that they are more valuable, give more details, and generally are written in such a readable style, as to make them the best district reports ever presented to Grand Chapter.

The St. Clair report is well written, giving necessary details of the work.

The London report is a useful and succinct rendering of the progress made.

The Wellington report is a readable resume of the work, which would have been more acceptable if more generous in details.

The Hamilton report is an appreciative one, furnishes desired information, but is rather wanting in detail.

The Huron report is another that is ample in details and instructive.

In the Niagara report brevity is the distinguishing characteristic.

The Toronto report refers to matters generally in connection with the work, contains an interesting account of two Lodges of Instruction, but lacks detail in information about the Chapters.

The Prince Edward report is ably written and contains all requisite information.

The Central report is a fair one, but there is a want of detail.

The Ontario report is acceptable, and gives the requisite information in detail.

The Manitoba report is very acceptable, giving a broad and useful epitome of Capitular work in our sister Province.

The Grand Superintendents have in nearly all cases acted on the suggestion made by your Committee last year, as recorded on pages 69 and 70 of the Annual Proceedings, and a careful reading of the pages referred to by incoming superintendents will, your Committee feels assured, be of guiding interest to the officers in charge of Districts for the current year.

THE ATTENDANCE AT CHAPTERS.

The reports indicate that the average attendance at Chapter meetings is not as large as the membership demands, although in some districts it is better than others. Members of the Royal Craft belong to so many other organizations, that it is difficult to always secure a large attendance, yet your Committee feels that in country districts the average attendance ought to be at least one third of the membership, and in city chapters over one half. Your Committee fraternally suggests that as a means of relieving the apparently unvaried character of work, that lectures on Royal Arch Symbolism, or Historical Recollections of Chapters, would be hailed with pleasure by the companions.

CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

Your Committee is highly gratified with the work of the Grand Superintendent of Toronto District in connection with Chapters of Instruction, and it is creditable to the companion to know that the exemplification of the work was in style of rendering and accuracy of text, never surpassed in the jurisdiction. Your Committee urges that at least one general Chapter of Instruction be held in a central section of each district, to which, after ample notice, all the officers of the different Chapters might be invited.

NEW CHAPTERS.

The opening of a chapter in the flourishing town of Brampton will, your Committee trusts, inspire the companions there, with the desire to make this, the youngest chapter on our roll, a credit to the Royal Craft in this field of Masonic labor.

CHAPTERS NOT PROSPERING.

The Grand Superintendent of Toronto District, your Committee regrets to note, has been compelled to report unfavorably concerning Seymour Chapter No. 38, Bradford. He thinks its 'resuscitation unavailing' if such be the case withdrawal of the warrant should follow. The Grand Superintendent of Central District reports that he has been unable to bring together the companions of Pembroke Chapter No. 58. even to perform the ceremony of Installation. The Chapter does not seem to have recovered from the reverses reported in 1886, although at that time a revival of the work was looked forward to. The Grand Supt. of St. Clair District, reports that Erie Chapter, No. 73, Ridgetown, has not enough members to

secure a quorum, that they have no meetings, do not confer degrees, but as assurances have been given, that there is a probability of resuscitation the Supt. is of opinion that if another year be given, it is possible that the Chapter will revive. This would seem to be the proper course under the circumstances, and your Committee therefore recommends that this course be adopted. From the Wellington District the warrant of Grand River Chapter, No. 70, Berlin, has also been returned to the Grand Scribe E., as it was found impossible to convene meetings of the Chapter. London District reports that Beaver Chapter, No. 74, Strathroy, and Minnewawa Chapter, No. 78, Parkhill, are both practically dormant, but he is given to understand from promises made that revival may take place during the year. The Ontario District reports that in the case of Excelsior Chapter, No. 45, Colborne, which has not made returns since 1880, and has not met for some time, its warrant should be withdrawn.

Your Committee is of opinion that a special report be made by the Grand Superintendents to the Grand Z. with reference to Seymour, Pembroke, Beaver, and Minnewawa, and Excelsior, Chapters, so that decided action may be taken at the next meeting of Grand Chapter. It is injurious to the Royal Craft that chapters should continue for years in a state of inertia, and thus have a deterrent effect upon Capitular Masonry in the vicinity in which they are located.

THE WORK.

Your Committee gathers from the reports that the exemplification of the work is improving. This is reassuring and justifies the departure made in giving the officers of chapters the necessary assistance, so that the rendering of the work might be uniform and accurate. Your Committee gleans from the report of the Grand Supt. of Wellington District, that in visiting one of his best Chapters he was unable to secure an exemplification of the work as 'owing to the non-appearance of an accepted candidate, no work was done, the principals being much disappointed at the lost opportunity'. This disappointment to both the Grand Superintendent and the officers, might have been avoided by the selection of a candidate from amongst the members of the chapter, and thus not only the Grand Supt. would have been gratified, but the officers no doubt would have shared in the pleasure.

AT REST.

The hand of the dread angel has again been felt in this field of Masonic labor. Some of those who have helped in the forest, in the quarry, and at our annual reunions have answered the summons of the silent messenger and "taken the path that man must tread, if man would ever pass to God." The memory of the hours when their friendly voices gave us counsel re-awakens pleasure. We think of their genial faces and good words. It was but yesterday when they were here, but now are not, for our companions have pierced the everlasting mists that veil our view of the beyond, to realize the truth of all that was taught them in the lesson of the Legend of the Craft. This is the seed time, and the harvest is sure to come to all. Let us emulate the virtues of our companions who have so lately said "Good-bye," and thus build a sure bulwark in the friendships moulded in our fraternal gatherings. May they be constant and sincere. The place where human harvests grow, whether in the crowded city, or the little country village, has marble tablets that look heavenward, inscribed with the names of so many who through the years have helped us to success in this Grand Chapter. As time rolls on, and we join the shrouded throng, let our work stand in bold relief, so that when life's mission is complete, and we view the golden sunrise, it may be said by the loved ones left behind, that we earned our reward and did our duty.

Your Committee recommends that memorial pages be set apart in the Annual Proceedings for the late M. E. Companion James Seymour, Past Grand First Principal, V. E. Companion W. F. Murray, Past Grand Steward, R. E. Comp. H. A. Baxter, Past Grand Superintendent, and R. E. Comp. William Kerr, Past Grand Registrar.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

J. ROSS ROBERTSON,
Chairman.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. R. B. Hungerford, seconded by R. E. Comp. J. Ross Robertson, and

Resolved, That the report of the Executive Committee on the condition of Capitular Masonry be received and adopted.

GRAND Z.'s ADDRESS.

To the Most Excellent, the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

The Executive Committee, to whom* was referred the address of the M. E. Grand Z., beg leave to report as follows :

Your Committee recognize the fact that in the numberless societies and organizations of the present day, especially those having pecuniary benefits as an additional attraction to their fraternal characteristics, there is to be found an explanation of the apathy and indifference which in some places prove to be detrimental to the interests of the Royal Craft. The energies of our companions are dissipated in other directions, and they have no time to give to an institution whose only aim is the general elevation of human character. This may be a selfish view to take of the situation, and there is no doubt that many of these societies are doing a great deal of good in their own way.

Your Committee, however, believe that Royal Arch Masonry is fully deserving of the best attention of the enlightened members of the Masonic fraternity, and also that there is no reason to be discouraged. Our membership is sufficiently strong to indicate a live institution. We do not profess to be a popular organization. Our membership is select, as will always be the case when our aims and objects appeal to the higher instincts. There may be a temporary or local depression, but we have no reason to believe that the large number of companions, who are now so faithfully working for the good of our branch of Masonry, will ever be seriously diminished. Truth is mighty and must prevail, and when the clouds pass away the sun always shines forth with undiminished brilliancy.

Your Committee are satisfied that the special dispensations issued by the M. E. Grand Z. were required in the interests of the several Chapters, and that his action thereupon should be approved.

Your Committee are fully aware of the desirability of maintaining friendly relations with our sister Grand Chapters. We recommend that the appointments and nominations specified by the M. E. Grand Z. of Grand Representatives be confirmed by Grand Chapter.

Your Committee recommend that memorial pages be placed in our proceedings to

M. E. Comp. James Seymour, P. G. Z.
 V. E. Comp. Wm. Forbes Murray, P. G. Steward.
 R. E. Comp. H. A. Baxter, P. G. Supt.
 R. E. Comp. William Kerr, P. G. Reg.

We regret their loss and bear testimony to their merits as useful and able craftsmen.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

FRED. J. MENET,
Chairman.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. R. B. Hungerford, seconded by M. E. Comp. Fred. J. Menet, and

Resolved, That the report of the Executive Committee on the M. Ex. Grand Z.'s address be received and adopted.

GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

Certain Companions of Sussex Chapter, No. 59, complain of the conduct of the Excellent First Principal of the Chapter on the 22nd June, 1888, in refusing to confirm the minutes of the previous convocation of that Chapter, on the ground that a resolution adopted at the previous meeting was irregular and unconstitutional in appointing a committee, which, by the By-laws of the Chapter, he was authorized and required to appoint. At the previous meeting a resolution was passed appointing a committee; the First Principal putting the resolution to the vote of the Chapter. The Committee are of opinion that while under the By-laws of the Chapter, he had unquestionably the right to appoint that committee. His putting the question must be considered an adoption on his part of that Committee.

As to the confirmation of the minutes it has frequently been determined that if they are a correct record of the proceedings, they must be confirmed; and the Committee are of opinion that the First Principal, although acting conscientiously, was wrong in not confirming them, and in trying to alter the record. The minutes referred to should be confirmed and the

marginal note struck out. The Committee trust that all ill-feeling may be allayed, and that the Chapter will pursue its work harmoniously and prosperously.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

July 19th, 1888.

HENRY MACPHERSON,
Chairman.

Moved by R. E. Comp. R. B. Hungerford, seconded by M. E. Comp. Henry Macpherson, and

Resolved, That the report of the Committee on Grievances and Appeals be received and adopted.

WARRANTS.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

Your Committee on Warrants beg leave to report that they have carefully examined the books of Tuscan Chapter, Brampton, now working under dispensation, and would recommend that a warrant be granted.

Your Committee also recommend that a warrant of Constitution be granted to the companions of Australasian Kilwinning Chapter at Melbourne, Australia, and to the companions of the City of Melbourne Chapter, at Melbourne, both of which have been working under dispensation.

In regard to the communication from the Grand Chapter of England, referring to the issue of warrants by this Grand Chapter for opening Royal Arch Chapters in the Colony of Victoria, Australia, and stating that the Grand Lodge of England has always held that the jurisdiction of Colonial and Dominion Grand Lodges cannot be recognized as extending beyond their own territorial limits. Your Committee feel that the Grand Chapter has nothing to do with the views held by the Grand Chapter of England in reference to the government of Royal Arch Masonry, and as the Grand Chapter in the several British provinces are the peers of the Grand Chapter of England, having equal powers, your Grand Council claim and maintain that the G. C. of Canada has the right to open and establish Chapters in any country or colony where a supreme governing body does not already exist. While the Grand Chapter of Canada is desirous of living in harmony with the Grand Chap-

ter of England, they are not prepared to surrender any of the powers and prerogatives which, as a Grand Chapter, they possess. They therefore recommend the Grand Chapter to maintain their position in reference to the Chapters in Australia, and to issue warrants to those now working under dispensation.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

DONALD ROSS,
Chairman.

Moved by R. E. Comp. R. B. Hungerford, seconded by M. E. Comp. Donald Ross, and

Resolved, That the report of the Committee on Warrants be received and adopted.

REPORT OF PRESENTATION TO M. E. COMPANION THOMAS SARGANT.

M. E. Comp. Fred. J. Menet, on behalf of the committee appointed for that purpose, presented to the Acting Grand Z. the valuable testimonial which Grand Chapter voted to M. E. Comp. Sargant on his retirement from the chair a year ago. With it was the following address, beautifully executed in book form, and which Comp. Menet read:

Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Canada to Most Excellent Companion Thomas Sargant, Past Grand Z:-

DEAR SIR AND M. E. COMP.,—On the occasion of your retirement from the office of Grand Z. of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada, the undersigned were appointed a committee to procure a suitable testimonial and present it to you, with an appropriate address expressive of the respect and esteem entertained for you by the Royal Arch Masons of this jurisdiction at the expiration of two years of your most successful and able administration of the affairs of the body over which you presided so acceptably.

To some of the committee the task is one of more than ordinary pleasure, because they have been associated with you as schoolmates in their boyhood days, and formed feelings of personal friendship that grew with their growth and ripened as they advanced, and is to-day unbroken, after having passed the various stages of youth until reaching that ripened manhood

where fresh friendships are not quickly formed or old associations easily broken.

With such an extended experience of your habits and conduct through life, we feel more than ordinary pleasure in assisting to do honor to your many sterling qualities, to bear testimony to your unwavering friendship and to recognize your upright and honorable life.

As a youth you were loved by your companions, as a man you are respected by those who prize honor and virtue, and as a Mason you stand honored by the Canadian Craft. And we would be unmindful of our duty if we did not refer to your labors for the advancement of Masonry, especially for the Royal Craft. We know you are a warm admirer of our time-honored institution in all its many branches, and have devoted much valued time to the exemplification and promulgation of the principles and tenets of the fraternity to the great benefit of those who came within the circle of your influence.

We trust you may continue to labor in the vineyard so that we may hear your welcome voice in our councils and have your presence at our deliberations. As a memento of the regard entertained for you we beg your acceptance of the accompanying testimonial with our warmest wishes for the future welfare of yourself and family, and trust that as the years roll by the articles may recall to you the kindly faces and friendly greetings of those who appreciate your worth and recognize your faithful labors.

On behalf of the Grand Chapter.

DANIEL SPRY.	} <i>Committee.</i>
FRED. J. MENET,	
DONALD ROSS,	

To which M. E. Comp. Sargant replied as follows :

COMPANIONS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER OF CANADA—It is exceedingly pleasing to me to receive from you, through the committee, that you were so kind to appoint an address which to me is so flattering, yet containing such expressions of good fellowship and brotherly kindness, that I hardly think I deserve.

You have kindly mentioned my efforts in promulgating the principals of our noble science. I assure you it has always

been my aim so far as it was in my power to use my best efforts and abilities in forwarding the interests of an institution which to me is so dear, and within whose precincts I have enjoyed such close companionships as it has been my privilege to do during the thirty years I have been associated with the Masonic fraternity.

It is possible that in many instances I have come far short of the requirements that are expected from one who has had the many positions that I have held, but I assure you, Companions, that wherein I have failed it has been an error of judgment rather than one of intention.

It is also very gratifying to me that I have been associated during my Masonic career with some whom I knew in early years and whose friendship has remained unbroken for such a long time, and which I trust, will last as long as we shall be permitted to sojourn here below.

During the last three years, the greater portion of which I have occupied the position of Grand Z. of this Grand Chapter, it has always been my aim to do everything that would redound for the good of the Royal Craft and in no way to give you any cause for regret in placing me in that high position. And now, Companions, in thanking you, (and, I may say, words cannot express my thanks) for the testimonial that your committee has presented to me on your behalf, one which will be highly prized by myself and family, not for its intrinsic value, but for the expression of good will and good wishes which it conveys to me and mine. I assure you it will ever be to me a souvenir of the happy times we have enjoyed together and as the years roll on and we begin to travel down the path of life, I sincerely trust and pray that the sweet communion we have enjoyed together in the past will be as nothing to what we will enjoy in the future, and that when the time shall come (as it will to us all sooner or later) we will be enabled to lay down the working tools of this life and enter into the enjoyment of that everlasting and continuous life in the world to come where no good-bye shall be said and parting shall be no more.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

DANIEL SPRY.	}	<i>Committee.</i>
FRED. J. MENET,		
DONALD ROSS,		

REPORT OF PRESENTATION TO R. E. COMP. E. MITCHELL.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

The Committee to whom was entrusted the pleasing duty of carrying into effect the resolution so unanimously adopted at the last annual convocation of Grand Chapter to procure and present to R. E. Comp. Edward Mitchell, Grand Treasurer, a Past Grand Superintendent's apron, sash, collar and jewel, beg leave to report that these articles, together with a beautifully engrossed address in book form, were procured, and at the regular convocation held on the 13th day of October, 1887, of St. John's Chapter, No. 6, G. R. C., all the members of the Committee were present, together with M. Ex. Comp. Fred. J. Menet, P.G.Z., of Toronto; R.Ex. Comp. Wm. Gibson, P. Grand Supt., of Beamsville; R.Ex. Comp. Wm. Forbes, P. Grand Supt.; and V. Ex. Comp. E. E. Loosley, from Grimsby; R. Ex. Comps. J. J. Mason, Gavin Stewart, John W. Murton, R. Brierley, and John Malloy; V. Ex. Comp. Robert M. Stuart, Ex. Comps. H. Sweetman, Fred Bennett and A. Doherty, besides a large number of other Hamilton Companions.

M. Ex. Comp. Thomas Sargent, in a feeling manner, alluded to the object of their visit to the Chapter, and what a pleasure it was for him and the other members of the Committee to have the pleasing duty to perform on behalf of the Grand Chapter. He then proceeded to read the address, which was engrossed in the highest style of artistic art, reflecting the greatest credit upon Comp. Wm. Bruce, the artist. It was in book form, handsomely bound in morocco, embellished most tastefully, and speaks well for the skill of the binders, Messrs. John Eastwood & Co. At the appointed time R. E. Comps. Hugh Murray and David McLellan invested R. E. Comp. Edward Mitchell with the clothing and jewel. The address was as follows:

To R. Ex. Comp. Edward Mitchell, Grand Treasurer, Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

At the last annual convocation of Grand Chapter a committee was appointed to procure and present to you a testimonial to mark, in a slight degree, the zeal you have evinced since you became a Royal Arch Mason, in October, 1865—twenty-two years ago; since which time you have occupied

the highest gift in the disposal of your Chapter and district. The M. Ex. the Grand Z., in the year 1870-71, having appointed you his Standard Bearer, and the Grand Chapter in 1878, acknowledging your merits, having elected you to the responsible position of Grand Treasurer, a confidence which has been renewed every year since by your unanimous re-election. We now, as a committee acting for Grand Chapter, ask your acceptance of this Past Grand Superintendent's apron, sash, collar and jewel, feeling confident that as long as the "Great I Am" may bless you with health and strength to wear these that, as in the past, you will wear them worthily. We know your warm attachment to the Craft. more especially to that sublime degree, the Holy Royal Arch, which is evinced by your acceptance of the chair of 1st Principal Z. of St. John's Chapter No. 6, after having been out of the more active duties of said position for some years, and we hope you may be long spared in health and strength to see the fruit of your labors, not only in this Chapter, but in our jurisdiction.

He that does his best
Does all he can,
An angel can do no more.

We now ask you to accept this testimonial with the kindest and most friendly feeling of every officer and companion of Grand Chapter, with best wishes for your future welfare and happiness, and with the hope that when you are summoned before the Great Overseer to have your life's work examined, you will receive that welcome, "Well done, good and faithful servant enter thou into the joy of thy Lord." Signed on behalf of Grand Chapter.

THOMAS SARGANT, P. G. Z.	} <i>Committee.</i>
HUGH MURRAY, Grand Supt.	
DAVID McLELLAN, Grand Scribe E.	

To which R. E. Comp. Edward Mitchell, in his own well known and impressive manner, replied as follows :

Most Excellent Companion Sargant and Right Excellent Companions Murray and McLellan,—I was indeed gratified and pleased by the kind resolution adopted by Grand Chapter at its last annual convocation to present me with the apron, sash, collar and jewel of a Past Grand Superintendent as a recognition of my services rendered for the past ten years as Grand Treasurer of the Grand Chapter, but I confess the manner in which you have been pleased to carry out the wishes of Grand

Chapter by your presenting me, with the testimonial, such a kind and affectionately worded and superbly engrossed address has so greatly increased my pleasure and gratification that I simply will not pretend to be able to express how warmly and sincerely in my heart of hearts I appreciate your kindness and the truly fraternal sentiments embodied in this address. No one can realize more than I the many failings, imperfections and shortcomings of my own nature, and surely, surely the the broad mantle of a Mason's charity has often been thrown over me. Time and again, extending over a period of a quarter of a century, I have been the recipient of favors and marks of kindness from my brethren, and the glow of satisfaction and pride and fraternal affection which pervades my whole being is simply indescribable, when I think and realize from the sentiments expressed in this address that at the close of all these years, independent altogether of a recognition of my services as Grand Treasurer, I am still secure in the affections of my companions. My duties as Grand Treasurer of the Grand Chapter I have always looked upon as a labor of love, but I assure you it is none the less encouraging to feel and know that a labor of love is lovingly recognized, and certainly a kinder or more gratifying recognition I could never wish than that accorded by Grand Chapter through you this evening. In this address you say truly I have an especial attachment to the supreme degree of the Holy Royal Arch. In my estimation it is the keystone of our whole structure—the climax of Masonry—and although I have received many beautiful and instructive degrees in Freemasonry since I became a Royal Arch Mason, my heart always goes back to the grand and ineffable mysteries of that degree so intimately blended with all our affairs, both human and divine, and by which we are so clearly taught to realize our own frailty and unworthiness, and the greatness and majesty, the condescension and love of the Father of all. Many a time while occupying the position of First Principal, and especially when communicating the mystical knowledge to a candidate, have I felt my own helplessness and utter unworthiness, and with heart filled with an unutterable reverence for the Incomprehensible Being in whose name the degree is founded, I have resolved then and there that out of the Chapter I would endeavor to practice those sublime precepts, so clearly inculcated in it, of love and duty and reverence to the Great Creator and that broad religion and that charity to our fellow beings which enable us not only to take into our Masonic ranks but into our hearts all men,

Regardless of their faith or race,
 Their country or their clan;
 Their creed the Fatherhood of God
 And brotherhood of man.

It is quite true that I may have lamentably failed in carrying out those resolves in any satisfactory or creditable manner,

For oh, mankind are unco' weak
 And little to be trusted,
 If self the wavering balance shake
 It's rarely right adjusted.

But all the same the attachment to the degree and its grand teachings has never left my heart. Your allusion to my again assuming the First Principal's chair of St. John's Chapter after many years' retirement brings up a thought which has often stirred my mind during the past few months, that perhaps the duties should not have been undertaken by me, as my own health and domestic affliction have up to this time prevented me from giving that attention to the duties of the office demanded and deserved, but I am surrounded by loving-hearted, generous, willing and able companions who bear for me in the meantime the burden of the work, and I am yet looking forward with confidence and hope of being able to render them that help and assistance which should naturally be expected from one who has been honored by them in being selected as their presiding officer. To the concluding prayer of your address I utter an earnest, fervent Amen, and when all of us have crossed the river may we meet in blissful reunion in the Grand Chapter above, and where once again each of us separately may be permitted to approach with reverential awe and lift the veil and discover and rapturously recognize in very deed and in very truth the Great Word.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

THOMAS SARGANT, Past G. Z.
 HUGH MURRAY, Grand Supt.
 DAVID McLELLAN, Grand S. E.

HAMILTON, 13th October, 1887.

On motion of M. E. Comp. Fred. J. Menet, seconded by M. E. Comp. Daniel Spry, these reports were received and adopted.

R. E. Comp. J. A. Wills presented his credentials as the Representative of the Grand Chapter of Maine which the M.

E. Grand Z. was pleased to receive, and the Companion was accorded the usual Masonic salutations which were suitably acknowledged by him.

It was moved by M. E. Comp, Fred. J. Menet, seconded by M. E. Comp. Daniel Spry, and unanimously

Resolved, That the Rank of Past Grand Z. of this Grand Chapter be conferred on R. E. Comp. Henry Robertson, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, as a mark of our esteem for his long and faithful services not only on that Committee but in the interests of the Craft in general, and particularly to this Grand Chapter.

M. E. Comps. Fred. J. Menet, and Daniel Spry spoke at length of the eminent services rendered by our esteemed Comp. in introducing the resolution to which M. E. Comp. Henry Robertson made a most suitable reply thanking the Grand Chapter for the honor conferred upon him.

The election of officers was then proceeded with, the Grand Scribes acting as scrutineers of the ballot.

The following named companions were declared duly elected :

R. E. Comp.	R. B. Hungerford,	London,	Grand Z.
R. E.	" J. J. Mason.	Hamilton,	" H.
R. E.	" J. E. Harding,	Stratford,	" J.

The Grand Chapter was then called off for 10 minutes.

The Grand Chapter resumed labor.

PRESENT :

M. E. Comp.	Thomas Sargent, as	Grand Z.
R. E.	" R. B. Hungerford,	" H.
R. E.	" J. J. Mason,	" J.

Grand Officers, Members and Representatives.

The following Companions were nominated by the representatives from the respective districts and approved by the M. Ex. acting Grand Z.

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS.

R.E.Comp.	Thos.C. Macnabb (re-el'd)	Chatham, St. Clair	Dist.
E.	" A. N. Pettit,	St.Thomas, London	"
E.	" M. Walsh,	Ingersoll, Wilson	"
E.	" John Shupe,	Galt, Wellington	"
E.	" C. W. Mulligan,	Hamilton, Hamilton	"
V.E.	" I. Baker,	Stratford, Huron,	"
V.E.	" T. L. M. Tipton,	Dunnville, Niagara	"
E.	" C. W. Postlethwaite,	Toronto, Toronto	"
E.	" W. R. Howse,	Whitby Ontario	"
V.E.	" John Waring.	Picton, Pr. Edward	"
R.E.	" Geo. Gale, (re-el'd)	Brockville, Central	"
E.	" Wm. G. Bell,	Winnipeg, Manitoba	"
E.	" Jos. D'Amer Drew,	Melbourne, Australian	"

The election of officers was then continued with the following result :

R. E. Comp.	David McLellan,	Hamilton, (re-ele'd)	Grand S. E.
V. E.	" T. F. Blackwood,	Toronto,	" S. N.
E.	" B. Shortly,	Peterboro,	" P. S.
R. E.	" E. Mitchell,	Hamilton, (re-ele'd)	" Treas
V. E.	" S. W. Ray,	Port Arthur,	" Reg.

And by an open vote of Grand Chapter Comp. Thomas Coleman of Owen Sound, Grand Janitor.

The following named Companions were elected members of the Executive Committee for the ensuing year.

R. E. Comp.	John Creasor,	Owen Sound,	Re-elected
"	" James B. Nixon,	Toronto,	"
"	" J. Ross Robertson,	"	"
"	" Alex. Patterson,	"	"
"	" Hugh Murray,	Hamilton,	

The following named Companions compose the Committee on Benevolence, and are members of the Executive Committee for the following terms :

R. E. Comp. John S. Dewar,	London,	retires in	-	1889
M. E. Comp. Daniel Spry,	Barrie,	" "	-	1890
R. E. Comp. Otto Klotz,	Preston,	" "	-	1891

M. E. Comp. Fred. J. Menet, P. G. Z. assisted by M. E. Comp. Thomas Sargant, P.G.Z., and M. E. Comp. Daniel Spry then proceeded with the installation and investiture of the newly elected officers who were proclaimed with the usual Masonic Ceremony.

M. E. Comp. R. B. Hungerford Grand Z. was then pleased to appoint the following Companions as members of the Executive Committee for the ensuing year viz :

R. E. Comp. A. G. Smyth,	London,	re-appointed.
" " Wm. Forbes,	Grimsby,	"
" " Wm. G. Reid,	Hamilton,	"
" " I. P. Willson,	Welland,	"
" " J. McL. Stevenson,	Barrie,	

At a subsequent date the M. E. Grand Z. was pleased to notify the Grand Scribe E. of the following appointments to office for the ensuing year, viz.:

APPOINTED OFFICERS.

Ex. Comp. G. G. Rowe,	Parkdale,	Grand 1st Ass't Soj
" " Harry Sweetman,	Hamilton,	" 2nd " "
" " Alex. McQueen,	London,	" S. B.
" " E. C. Fields,	Prescott,	" M. of Veils
" " G. A. K. McLeod,	Exeter	" Stand B.
" " R. McCaw,	Oshawa,	" D. of C.
" " John Knox Leslie,	Toronto,	" Organist.
V.Ex. " Jas Sutherland	Woodstock,	" Pursuivant.
Ex. " Wm. T. Walker,	Winnipeg,	" Steward.
" " Hiram Wellbanks,	Picton,	" "
" " Chas. G. McDermott,	St. Catharines	" "
" " G. V. J. Greenhill,	Galt,	" "

The M. Ex. Grand Z. directed that each companion elected or appointed to office not having presented himself for

installation or investiture is to be installed in the Chapter of which he is a member.

The labors of Grand Chapter being ended it was closed in *Ample Form* at 2 p. m.



David M. Lellan.

GRAND SCRIBE E.

TORONTO, 20th July, A.I. 2418, A.D. 1888.

RETURN OF SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS ACCORDING TO LAST RETURNS.

ON	NAME.	WHERE HELD.	NIGHT OF MEETING.	FIRST PRINCIPAL Z.	SCRIBE E.
1	An. Fron. & Catarqui	Kingston, C	Third Wednesday of every month.	John Newton	W. H. Carnovsky
2	The Hiram	Hamilton H	1st Monday every m'th exc't July & Aug	E. W. Klotz	A. Poulter
3	St. John's	London L	Fourth Wednesday of every month.	A. E. Cooper	John Siddons
4	St. And'w & St. John	Toronto. T	Third Friday of every month.	H. N. Williams	Thos R. Bain.
5	St. George's	London L	Third Tuesday of every month.	A. B. Munson	Chas. C. Reed
6	St. John's	Hamilton H	2nd Thursday every m'th exc't July & Aug	E. Mitchell	W. J. McAllister
7	Moula	Belleville . . . P. E.	First Tuesday of every month	A. McGinnis	Alfred Gillen
8	King Solomon's	Toronto. T	First Wednesday of every month	R. L. Patterson	E. H. Britton
15	Wawanosh	Sarnia L	Second Friday of every month.	W. Abernethy	Chas. Mole (acting).
16	Carleton.	Ottawa C	Third Thursday of every month.	C. R. Church	W. G. S. Reynolds
18	Oxford	Woodstock . . . W	Third Friday of every month.	Jas Sutherland	Jas. Wilson
19	Mount Moriah.	St. Catharines N	Friday on or before f. moon of every m'th	C. G. McDermott	Fred A. Southcott
20	Mount Horeb	Brantford W	First Wednesday of every month	Wm. Watt, jr.	David Curtis
22	Grenville	Prescott C	Second Tuesday of every month	Chas. C. Brouse	M. Dowsley
23	Ezra	Simcoe W	Second Wednesday of every month. . . . .	.....	.....
24	Tecumseh	Stratford . . . H N	First Tuesday of every month	F. W. Gearing	I. Baker
26	St. Mark's	Trenton. P. E	Second Wednesday of every month. . . . .	.....	.....
27	Manitou	Collingwood. . . T	First Friday of every month.	John Nettleton.	James Lindsay
28	Pentlapha	Bowmanville. . O	Second Friday of every month.	W. R. Piggott	J. Roenigk
29	McCallum	Dunnville. . . N	Friday on or after full moon.	John W. McCallum	W. D. Swayze
30	Huron	Goderich . . . H N	Third Tuesday of every month.	J. W. Green.	H. W. Ball
31	Prince Edward	Pictou P. E	Monday on or after full moon	W. P. Reynolds	Donald Ross
32	Waterloo	Galt W N	Second Monday of every month.	Chas. McWilliams	John Shupe
34	Signet	Barrie T	Second Tuesday of every month.	Samuel Wesley	W. A. Capon
35	Keystone	Whitby O	Third Friday of every month.	W. R. Howse	W. A. Yule
36	Corinthian	Peterboro' . . . O	3rd Tuesday every m'th exc't July & Aug	R. A. Morrow	David Spence
37	Victoria	Port Hope . . . O	Second Thursday of every month.	G. B. Salter	W. B. Wallace

38	Seymour	Bradford.	T	Friday on or before f. moon of every m'th	Jos. Parker	W. Gibson
40	Guelph	Guelph..	W N	Second Friday of every month..	M. Walsh	Wm. A. Woolson..
41	Harris	Ingersoll...	W	Second Friday of every month	Jas. Walters..	R. W. Longmore..
44	Mount Sinai.	Napanee...P.E		Wednesday after full moon.		
45	Excelsior.	Colborne...	O	First Thursday of every month.		
46	St. James.	St. Mary's...H N		Second Wednesday of every month.		
47	Wellington	Chatham	St C	Second Thursday of every month.	Thomas Scullard.	James Birch..
48	St. John's.	Cobourg.	O	Friday on or before f. moon of every m'th	P. J. Lightbourne.	R. J. Craig
49	Elora.	Elora.	W N	Wed. on or after f. moon of every m'th.	L. E. Wissler.	W. Gay.
52	Prince Rupert	Winnipeg..M		First Thursday of every month.	Thos. Robinson.	John Suckling.
53	Bruce.	Petrollea....L		First Thursday of every month.	John Fraser.	David Trotter.
54	Palestine	St. Thomas..L		Second Thursday of every month.	S. Dubber.	W. E. Idsardi.
55	Niagara.	Niagara.....N		Thursday after full moon.	Gage J. Miller.	W. A. Thompson.
56	Georgian	Owen Sound. T		Third Tuesday of every month.	Allen Cameron.	Thos. Boardman.
57	King Hiram.	Pt. Colborne. N		First Thursday of every month.	J. B. Neff	Chas. E. Lugsden.
58	Pembroke.	Pembroke....C		First Monday of every month		
59	Sussex	Brockville. .C		Friday on or before f. moon of every m'th	Wm. King.	Jas. A. Poulton.
60	Doric.	Newmarket..T		First Wednesday of every month.	Thos. Ratcliffe.	Wm. A. Ewing.
61	Granite.	Almonte. ....C		Second Monday of every month	J. H. Thrall.	Ralph Hill
62	York.	Eglington....T		Thursday on or after full moon.		
63	Havelock.	Kincardine..H N		Third Thursday of every month.	DeWitt H. Martyn.	James S. Greenhill.
64	Willson	Welland. ....N		Last Wednesday of every month.	I. P. Willson.	M. W. Bridgman.
65	St. Paul's.	Toronto.....T		Second Wednesday of every month.	Fred. F. Manley.	Geo. W. Weston.
66	The Malloch.	Clinton.....H N		Friday before full moon of every month.	Wm. G. Duff.	D. McG. Malloch.
67	Enterprise.	Harriston .W N		First Tuesday of every month		
68	Maitland	North AugustaC		Third Thurs. in Mar., June, Sept. & Dec		
69	Grimsb'y.	Grimsb'y.....N		First Wed in July, Sep., Nov., Jan, Mar & May	E. E. Loosley.	Wm. Forbes.
71	Prince of Wales	Amherstb'g St C		First Monday on or after full moon.	Geo. Gott.	R. Elliott.
73	Erie	Ridgetown. St C		Wednesday on or before full moon		
74	Beaver	Strathroy ....L		Second Tuesday of every month		
75	St. Clair.	Milton	H	Second Wed. of every alternate month.	J. E. Harrison.	E. Dixon.
76	Mount Nebo.	Niagara Falls. N		Friday on or before f. moon of every m'th	James McGarry	Geo. Hyatt.

RETURN OF SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS—Continued.

NO.	NAME.	WHERE HELD.	NIGHT OF MEETING.	FIRST PRINCIPAL Z.	SCRIBE E.
77	Occident	Toronto.....T	Second Monday of every month.	J. W. Hickson.....	W. E. Mitchell....
78	Minnewawa.....	Park Hill.....L	Third Monday of every month.	Ira Bates.....	F. H. Anderson....
79	Orient	Toronto.....T	Fourth Thursday of every month.	Thos McGregor....	Geo. D. Jeffers....
80	Ark.....	Windsor...StC	Second Monday of every month.	S. S. Clutton.....	C. C. Miller.....
81	Aylmer.....	Aylmer.....L	Friday on or after f. moon of every m th	R. E. Mitchell.....	W. J. Clarke.....
82	Shuniah.....	Port Arthur..M	Friday on or before full moon	John C. Fox.....	John McLaren....
83	Ionic.....	Orangeville.WN	Tuesday on or after f. moon of every m th	J. A. Morton.....	W. E. Groves.....
84	Lebanon	Wingham..HN	First Wednesday of every month.....	H. Spackman.....	S. F. Robinson....
85	Exeter	Exeter.....HN	First Tuesday of every month	D. Bole.....	H. McDonald.....
86	Macpherson.....	Meaford.....T	Second Thursday of every month.....	F. Bennett.....	F. A. Latshaw....
87	Wentworth	Dundas..H	Tuesday on or before full moon.....	J. W. Sharpe.....	Jas. H. McVean....
88	Macnabb.....	Dresden..StC	First Thursday of every month.....	D. T. Ferguson....	John Kerr Brydon..
90	Golden.....	Rat Portage..M	Third Tuesday of every month.....	Chas. F. Mansell...	Geo. J. Bennett....
91	Antiquity	Parkdale.....T	Second Tuesday of every month	D. K. Ross.....	J. G. Sutherland...
92	Spy.....	Alliston.....T	Friday on or before f. moon of every m th	Thos. Main.....	York Bramwell....
93	Metropolitan.....	Melbourne.AUS	1st Mon. in Jan, Mar, May, July, Sep & Nov	J. W. Wallace.....	Wm. W. Woods....
94	Midland.....	Lindsay.....O	Second Friday of every month.....	Geo. J. Bennett....	.....
95	Tuscan.....	Brampton...T	Third Monday of every month.....	Jos. M. D'Amer Drew	.....
96	Australasian Kilwin'g	Melbourne.AUS	3rd Mon. in Jan, Mar, May, July, Sep & Nov	Percy Oakden.....	.....
97	City of Melbourne ..	Melbourne.AUS	4th Mon. in Feb, Apr, June, Aug, Oct & Dec	.....	.....

NOTE.—The capital letters on right of "where held" column indicate the several Districts, viz.:—St. C., St. Clair; L., London; W., Wilson; WN., Wellington; H., Hamilton; HN., Huron; N., Niagara; T., Toronto; O., Ontario; P. E., Prince Edward; C., Central; M., Manitoba; AUS., Australian.

BALANCES IN LEDGER, JUNE 30, 1888.

ON	NAME OF CHAPTER.	PLACE OF MEETING.	WARRANT GRANTED.	NO RETURNS.	LAST RETURNS	AM'T THEN DUE.	CR'DIT
1	Ancient Frontenac & Catarqui.	Kingston.....	A. D. 1795	.....	May 31, 1888	.....	.....
2	The Hiram.....	Hamilton.....	" 1820	.....	" 1888	.....	.....
3	St. John's.....	London.....	" 1844	.....	" 1888	.....	.....
4	St. Andrew and St. John's.....	Toronto.....	" 1847	 1888	" 1887	.....	.....
5	St. George's.....	London.....	" 1854	.....	" 1888	.....	.....
6	St. John's.....	Hamilton.....	" 1855	.....	" 1888	.....	.....
7	Moir.....	Belleville.....	" 1856	.....	" 1888	.....	4 20
8	King Solomon's.....	Toronto.....	" 1857	.....	" 1888	.....	.....
15	Wawanosh.....	Sarnia.....	Feb. 8, 1860	.....	" 1888	.....	.....
16	Carleton.....	Ottawa.....	" "	.....	" 1888	.....	.....
18	Oxford.....	Woodstock.....	" "	.....	" 1887	.....	.....
19	Mount Moriah.....	St. Catharines.....	Feb. 21, 1861	 1888	" 1888	.....	.....
20	Mount Horeb.....	Brantford.....	" "	.....	" 1888	.....	.....
22	Grenville.....	Prescott.....	Feb. 20, 1862	.....	" 1888	.....	2 00
23	Ezra.....	Simcoe.....	" "	 1883-4-5-6-7-8	Jan. 31, 1882	19 00	.....
24	Tecumseh.....	Stratford.....	Aug. 11, 1863	.....	May 31, 1888	.....	.....
26	St. Mark's.....	Trenton.....	Aug. 14, 1866	 1874 to '88 inclusive	Jan. 31, 1873	.....	.....
27	Manitou.....	Collingwood.....	" "	.....	May 31, 1888	.....	3 00
28	Pentalpha.....	Bowmanville.....	Aug. 13, 1867	.....	" 1888	.....	.....
29	McCallum.....	Dunnville.....	" "	 1888	" 1887	10 40	.....
30	Huron.....	Goderich.....	" "	.....	" 1888	.....	.....
31	Prince Edward.....	Pictou.....	Aug. 11, 1868	.....	" 1888	16 20	.....
32	Waterloo.....	Galt.....	" "	 1888	" 1887	.....	.....
34	Signet.....	Barrie.....	Aug. 10, 1869	.....	" 1888	.....	.....

BALANCES IN LEDGER JUNE 30, 1888—Continued.

NO.	NAME OF CHAPTER.	PLACE OF MEETING.	WARRANT GRANTED.	NO RETURNS.	LALT RETURNS.	AM'T THEN DUE.	CR'DT.
35	Keystone	Whitby .....	"	.....	" 1888	20	.....
36	Corinthian	Peterboro' .....	"	.....	" 1888	20	.....
37	Victoria	Port Hope .....	"	.....	" 1888	.....	.....
38	Seymour	Bradford	Aug. 10, 1870	 1886-87-88	" 1885	.....	.....
40	Guelph	Guelph .....	"	.....	" 1888	.....	.....
41	Harris	Ingersoll .....	"	.....	" 1888	.....	.....
44	Mount Sinai	Napanee	Aug. 9, 1871	.....	" 1888	.....	.....
45	Excelsior	Colborne	"	 1881-2-3-4-5-6-7-8..	Jan. 31, 1880	13 60	.....
46	St. James'	St. Mary's	"	 1874 to '88 inclusive	" 1873	2 75	.....
47	Wellington	Chatham .....	"	.....	May 31, 1888	.....	.....
48	St. John's	Cobourg	Aug. 14, 1872	.....	" 1888	.....	.....
49	Elora	Elora .....	"	.....	" 1888	.....	1 50
52	Prince Rupert's	Winnipeg .....	"	.....	" 1888	60	.....
53	Bruce	Petrolia	"	 1888	" 1887	.....	.....
54	Palestine	St Thomas	Aug. 13, 1873	.....	" 1888	.....	.....
55	Niagara	Niagara	"	 1888	" 1887	.....	.....
56	Georgian	Owen Sound .....	"	.....	" 1888	.....	.....
57	King Hiram	Port Colborne	Aug. 14, 1874	.....	" 1888	.....	.....
58	Pembroke	Pembroke	"	 1887-88	" 1886	.....	.....
59	Sussex	Brockville .....	"	.....	" 1888	.....	.....
60	Doric	Newmarket .....	"	.....	" 1888	1 00	.....
61	Granite	Almonte .....	"	.....	" 1888	.....	.....
62	York	Eglington	"	 1887-88	" 1886	.....	.....
63	Havelock	Kincardine .....	"	.....	" 1888	.....	.....

64	Willson.	Welland.	Aug. 11, 1875	 1888	“	1887	.....
65	S. Paul's	Toronto	“	.....	“	1888	.....
66	The Malloch	Clinton	“	.....	“	1888	6 60
67	Enterprise	Harriston	“	1887-88	“	1886	.....
68	Maitland	North Augusta	“	1888	“	1887	90
69	Grimsby.	Grimsby	“	1888	“	1887	.....
71	Prince of Wales	Amherstburg	Aug. 9, 1876	1888	“	1887	.....
73	Erie	Ridgetown	“	1887-88	“	1886	.....
74	Beaver	Strathroy	“	1884-5-6-7-8	Jan. 31, 1883	.....	.....
75	St. Clair	Milton	“	.....	May 31, 1888	.....	.....
76	Mount Nebo	Niagara Falls South	“	.....	“	1888	.....
77	Occident	Toronto	“	1888	“	1887	2 00
78	Minnewawa	Park Hill	Aug. 8, 1877	1886-7-8	“	1885	.....
79	Orient	Toronto	“	.....	“	1888	.....
80	Ark	Windsor	“	.....	“	1888	1 00
81	Aylmer	Aylmer	Aug. 14, 1878	.....	“	1888	.....
82	Shuniah	Port Arthur	“	1888	“	1887	.....
83	Ionic	Orangeville	“	.....	“	1888	.....
84	Lebanon	Wingham	“	.....	“	1888	.....
85	Exeter	Exeter	Aug. 12, 1879	.....	“	1888	6 00
86	Macpherson	Meaford	July 16, 1880	.....	“	1888	1 50
87	Wentworth	Dundas	“	.....	“	1888	9 20
88	Macnabb	Dresden	July 14, 1882	.....	“	1888	.....
90	Golden	Rat Portage	July 13, 1883	.....	“	1888	.....
91	Antiquity	Parkdale	July 11, 1884	.....	“	1888	.....
92	Spry	Alliston	July 10, 1885	1888	“	1887	.....
93	Metropolitan	Melbourne	July 16, 1886	1888	“	1887	.....
94	Midland	Lindsay	July 15, 1887	1888	May 31, 1887	.....	11 50
95	Tuscan	Brampton	July 20, 1888	.....	May 31, 1887	.....	26 00
96	Australasian Kilwinning	Melbourne	“	.....	No ret's since	organiza-	tion.
97	City of Melbourne	Melbourne	“	.....	“	“	“

TABULAR STATEMENT EXTRACTED FROM THE RETURNS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30TH JUNE, 1888.

ON	NAME OF CHAPTER.	PLACE OF MEETING.	No. of Admissions.	No. of Joinings.	Restr'd.	Withdrawals.	Suspensions.	Expel'd	Deaths.	No. of Memb's
1	Ancient Frontenac & Catarqui...	Kingston...	...	1	...	2	4	...	1	92
2	The Hiram...	Hamilton...	4	...	1	4	18	...	2	177
3	St. John's...	London...	9	...	1	...	14	...	1	67
4	St. Andrew and St. St. John.	Toronto...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	104
5	St. George's...	London...	1	...	...	3	2	...	...	72
6	St. John's...	Hamilton...	6	1	...	8	16	...	8	156
7	Moirs...	Belleville...	8	...	...	1	...	...	1	89
8	King Solomon's...	Toronto...	8	...	1	1	...	...	2	146
15	Wawanosh...	Sarnia...	2	1	...	4	...	...	...	45
16	Carleton...	Ottawa...	3	1	1	...	...	...	3	79
18	Oxford...	Woodstock...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
19	Mount Moriah...	St. Catharines...	2	...	...	1	...	...	3	73
20	Mount Horeb...	Brantford...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	27
22	Grenville...	Prescott...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
23	Ezra...	Simcoe...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
24	Tecumseh...	Stratford...	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	38
26	St. Mark's...	Trenton...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
27	Manitou...	Collingwood...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
28	Pentalpha...	Bowmanville...	3	...	1	5	4	...	...	25
29	McCallum...	Dunnville...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	48
30	Huron...	Goderich...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	45
31	Prince Edward...	Pictou...	10	...	...	2	...	...	3	56
32	Waterloo...	Galt...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	34
34	Signet...	Barrie...	8	...	2	...	...	...	...	47
35	Keystone...	Whitby...	5	4	1	...	...	...	...	24
36	Corinthian...	Peterboro'	1	...	...	1	...	...	1	59

37	Victoria.....	Port Hope.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	24
38	Seymour.....	Bradford.....	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	.....	29
40	Guelph.....	Guelph.....	7	.....	.....	.....	4	.....	70
41	Harris.....	Ingersoll.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	33
44	Mount Sinai.....	Napanee.....	5	1	.....	3	.....	.....	41
45	Excelsior.....	Colborne.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20
46	St. James'.....	St. Mary's.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	25
47	Wellington.....	Chatham.....	4	.....	.....	2	7	2	36
48	St. John's.....	Cobourg.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	32
49	Elora.....	Elora.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	26
52	Prince Rupert's.....	Winnipeg.....	28	5	.....	4	14	.....	122
53	Bruce.....	Petrolia.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	47
54	Palestine.....	St. Thomas.....	2	2	.....	1	3	5	79
55	Niagara.....	Niagara.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20
56	Georgian.....	Owen Sound.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	1	36
57	King Hiram.....	Port Colborne.....	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	32
58	Pembroke.....	Pembroke.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	12
59	Sussex.....	Brockville.....	1	2	.....	.....	2	.....	41
60	Doric.....	Newmarket.....	2	.....	.....	2	3	1	21
61	Granite.....	Almonte.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	27
62	York.....	Eglington.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	25
63	Havelock.....	Kincardine.....	6	.....	.....	1	1	.....	45
64	Willson.....	Welland.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	36
65	S. Paul's.....	Toronto.....	13	3	.....	2	.....	.....	74
66	The Malloch.....	Clinton.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	33
67	Enterprise.....	Harriston.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	31
68	Maitland.....	North Augusta.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	23
69	Grimsby.....	Grimsby.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	29
71	Prince of Wales.....	Amherstburg.....	10	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	21
73	Erie.....	Ridgetown.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	13
74	Beaver.....	Strathroy.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	36
75	St. Clair.....	Milton.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	32

TABULAR STATEMENT EXTRACTED FROM THE RETURNS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30TH JUNE, 1888.—Continued.

NO.	NAME OF CHAPTER.	PLACE OF MEETING.	No. of Admissions.	No. of Joinings.	Restr'd.	Withdrawals.	Suspensions.	Expel'd.	Deaths.	No. of Memb's
76	Mount Nebo.....	Niagara Falls South.....				1			1	23
77	Occident.....	Toronto.....	1	1		1			1	76
78	Minnewawa.....	Park Hill.....								27
79	Orient.....	Toronto.....	8		1	1	6		2	53
80	Ark.....	Windsor.....	6		3					66
81	Aylmer.....	Aylmer.....	1				5			29
82	Shuniah.....	Port Arthur.....								30
83	Ionic.....	Orangeville.....								30
84	Lebanon.....	Wingham.....								32
85	Exeter.....	Exeter.....	1	1		2	2			25
86	Macpherson.....	Meaford.....	1	1						24
87	Wentworth.....	Dundas.....				2			1	46
88	Macnabb.....	Dresden.....	2							19
90	Golden.....	Rat Portage.....	3							37
91	Antiquity.....	Parkdale.....	15			1			1	45
92	Spry.....	Alliston.....								17
93	Metropolitan.....	Melbourne.....	6							42
94	Midland.....	Lindsay.....	12				5			17
95	Tuscan.....	Brampton.....	16	14						30
96	Australasian Kilwinning.....	Melbourne.....		10						10
97	City of Melbourne.....	Melbourne.....		11						11
			237	60	12	69	108		44	3498

RECAPITULATION.

Number of Chapters on the Roll.....	79
“ “ Represented in Grand Chapter.....	57
“ Registrations Reported.....	237
“ Joinings “.....	60
“ Restorations “.....	12
“ Withdrawals “.....	69
“ Suspensions “.....	108
“ Deaths “.....	44
“ Expulsions “.....	
Total Number of Members on Roll Grand Chapter.....	3498
Total Amount of Receipts, 1887-8.....	\$2,247 34

SUSPENSIONS.

Name.	Name and No. of Chapter.	Da 7
Gunn, Wm. A.	No. 1, Anct. Fron. and Cataraqui, Kingston	Dec. 21st, 1887
Irwin, Robert A.	“ “ “	“ “
Knight, L. W.	“ “ “	“ “
O'Brien, Martin	“ “ “	“ “
Belnap, W. H.	No. 2, The Hiram, Hamilton.	Sep. 5th, 1887
Bremner, James	“ “ “	“
Carruthers, J. G.	“ “ “	“
Crankshaw, W. J.	“ “ “	“
Cowan, A	“ “ “	“
Calder, A.	“ “ “	“
Dewar Wm.	“ “ “	“
Duggan, R. J.	“ “ “	“
Johnson, James	“ “ “	“
Kennedy, Wm	“ “ “	“
Mackay, R.	“ “ “	“
McKenzie, Geo.	“ “ “	“
Omand Wm.	“ “ “	“
Robertson, Wm.	“ “ “	“
Stiff, James	“ “ “	“
Sutherland, W. B.	“ “ “	“
Thomson, Peter	“ “ “	“
Thom, John	“ “ “	“
Crawford, Samuel	No. 3, St. John's, London,	May 23rd, 1888
Earwaker, Jas.	“ “ “	Feb. 28, 1888

Flin, Thomas	"	"	"	May 23, 1888
Foster, Fred	"	"	"	"
Kelly, Lewis	"	"	"	"
Kingsmill, R. J.	"	"	"	"
Martin, J. W.	"	"	"	"
Murray, A. G.	"	"	"	"
McMartin, James	"	"	"	"
McKenzie, E.	"	"	"	"
Sanagan, C. L.	"	"	"	"
Sanagan, W. F.	"	"	"	"
Tracey, Thos, H	"	"	"	"
Wilkins, A	"	"	"	"
Priddis, Charles	No. 5, St. George's, London,			March 20, 1888
Schelshauf, John C.	"	"	"	"
Bevier, D.	No. 6, St. John's, Hamilton,			May 12, 1887
Brass, J.	"	"	"	"
Dodds, R.	"	"	"	"
Fawcett, Wm.	"	"	"	"
Franklin, G. M.	"	"	"	"
Gill, G. R.	"	"	"	"
Golding, P. G. N.	"	"	"	"
Hill, Charles	"	"	"	"
Murray, C. R.	"	"	"	"
McCabe, S.	"	"	"	"
McMillan, D.	"	"	"	"
McIntosh, J	"	"	"	"
Pearson, Wm.	"	"	"	"
Sawle, W. T.	"	"	"	"
Turnbull, A. T.	"	"	"	"
Vongunten, C. L.	"	"	"	"
Bassett, Thos.	No. 28, Pentalpha, Bowmanville,			June 12, 1885
Ray, Joel W.	"	"	"	"
Shipman, W.	"	"	"	"
Storie, Geo.	"	"	"	"
Kendrick, John	No. 40, Guelph, Guelph			
McBean, Arthur	"	"	"	
Reeves, Richard	"	"	"	
Rundle, Thos. C.	"	"	"	
Arnold, T. C.	No. 47, Wellington, Chatham,			June 9, 1887
Coulson, H. J.	"	"	"	"
Eberts, H. J.	"	"	"	"
Kennedy, Martin	"	"	"	"
Snider, J. E.	"	"	"	"
Sparling, W. H.	"	"	"	"

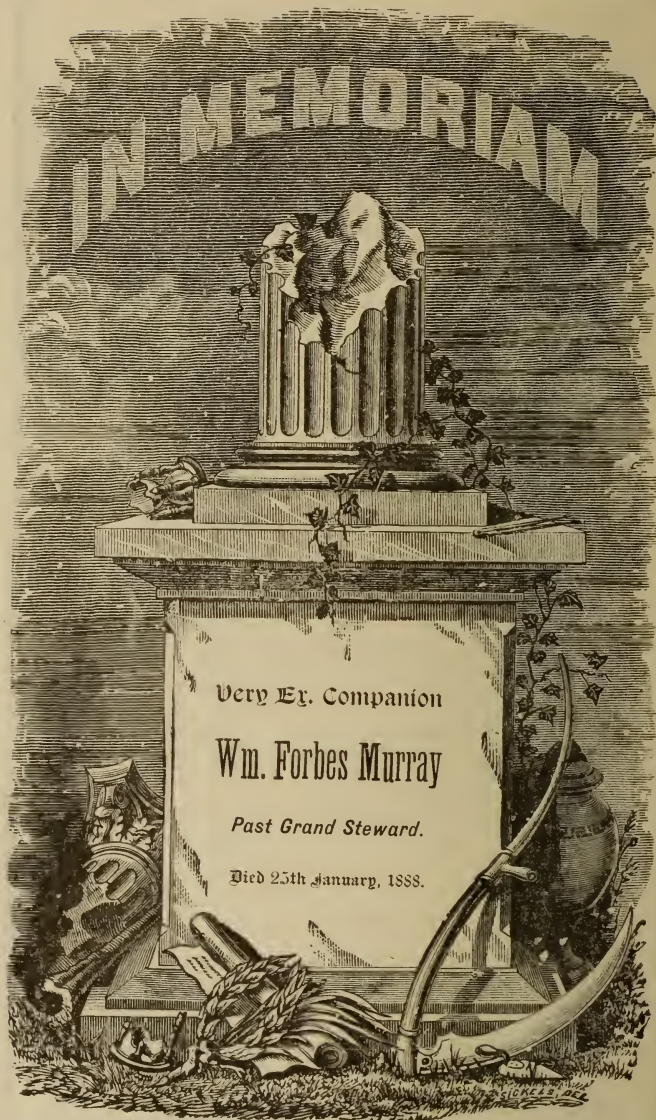
Taylor, A. E.	"	"	"	"
Cain, J. Y.	No. 52,	Prince Rupert's,	Winnipeg,	Sep. 1, 1887
Carley, J. A.	"	"	"	"
Fulthrop, Geo. E.	"	"	"	"
Kelly, J.	"	"	"	"
Levy, J.	"	"	"	"
Luxton, Wm. F.	"	"	"	"
Mann, D. D.	"	"	"	"
Mee, A. W.	"	"	"	"
Peebles, J. A.	"	"	"	"
Renwick, T.	"	"	"	"
Ruttan, H. N.	"	"	"	"
Scott, Thomas,	"	"	"	"
Stienhoff, L.	"	"	"	"
Suffell, W. J,	"	"	"	"
Ellison, Luke,	No. 54,	Palestine,	St. Thomas,	Dec. 8, 1887
Stuart, Thos.	"	"	"	"
Thompson, John H.	"	"	"	"
Jamieson, R. C.	No. 59,	Sussex,	Brockville	Feb. 24, 1888
Johnson, Wm.	"	"	"	"
Lundy, Chas. E.	No. 60,	Doric,	Newmarket,	April 4, 1888
Roche, Wm. R.	"	"	"	May, 2, 1888
Wright, George,	"	"	"	"
Parr, Jos.	No. 63,	Havelock,	Kincardine,	May, 17, 1888
Maloney, Fred.	No. 71,	Prince of Wales,	March 14,	1887
		Amherstburg,		
Patton, Judson,	"	"	"	"
Peneteau, Eugene	"	"	"	"
Gibb, Lawrence,	No. 79,	Orient,	Toronto,	Feby. 23, 1888
Glanville, John.	"	"	"	"
Hodgins, Thos.	"	"	"	"
Lemon, J. H.	"	"	"	"
Patterson, Geo. C.	"	"	"	"
Wilkinson. W. C.	"	"	"	"
Black, John,	No. 81,	Aylmer,	Aylmer,	May, 25, 1888
Connell, John,	"	"	"	"
Maw, R. H.	"	"	"	"
McAffee, Chas.	"	"	"	"
Thompson, Thos.	"	"	"	"
Demuth, Justus,	No. 85,	Exeter,	Exeter,	April 3, 1888
Grant, Wm.	"	"	"	"

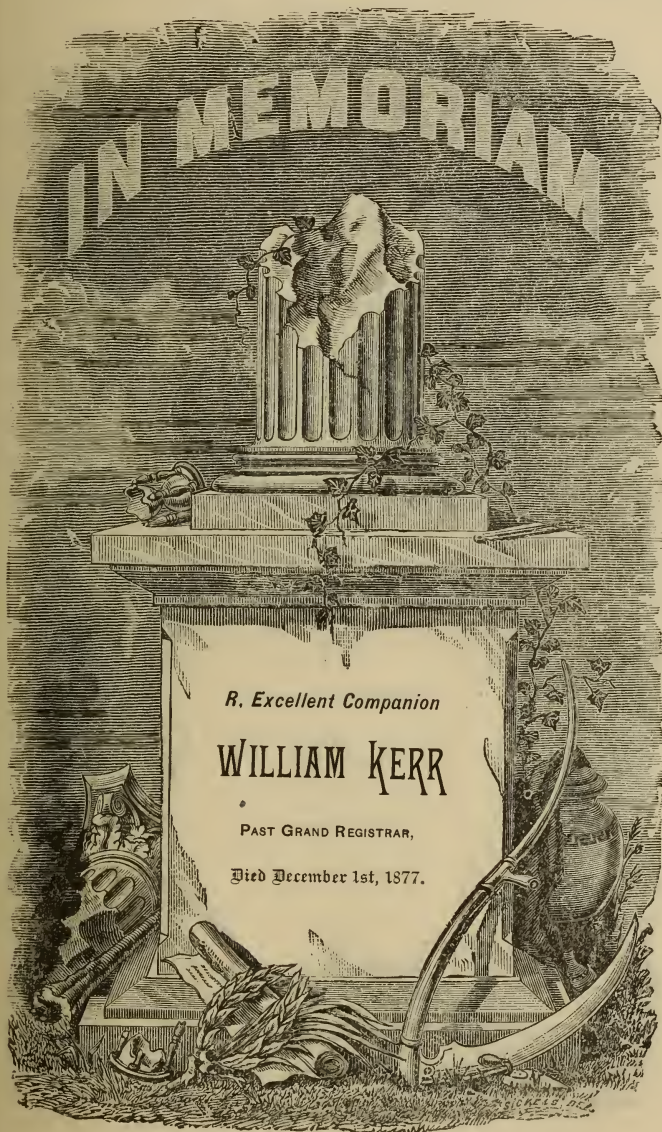
RESTORATIONS.

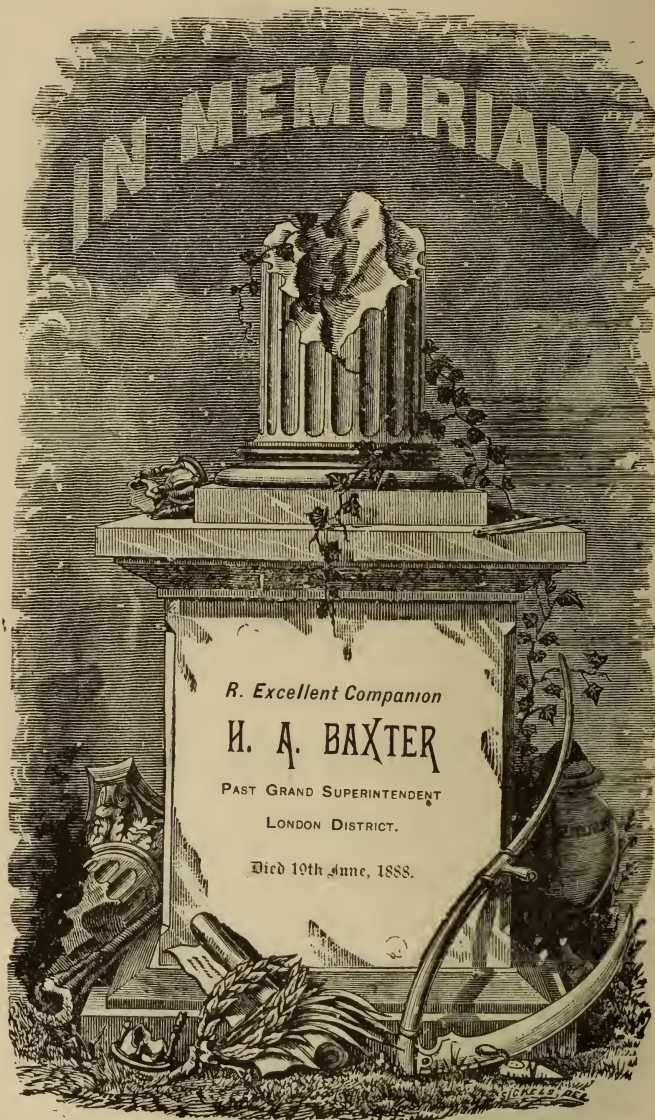
Name.	Chapter and Location.	Date.
Robinson, Henry,	No. 2, The Hiram, Hamilton,	May, 28, 1887
Mackay, Jno. H.	No. 3, St. John's, London,	May, 17, 1887
Fleming, R. M.	No. 8, King Solomon's, Toronto,	June 6, 1888
Crain, Geo.	No. 16, Carleton, Ottawa,	Jan. 19, 1888
Gates, S.	No. 18, Pentalpha, Bowmanville,	Nov. 11, 1887
Berry, Geo.	No. 34, Signet, Barrie,	Nov. 10, 1887
Bingham, Wesley	" " "	"
Ferrier, D. W.	No. 35, Keystone, Whitby,	Nov. 25, 1887
Watt, D. H.	No. 79, Orient, Toronto,	Nov. 24, 1887
Burnie, Thomas,	No. 80, Ark, Windsor,	Feb. 13, 1888
Grant, Donald,	" " "	Oct. 10, 1887
Van Renchard, J.	" " "	Sept. 12, 1887

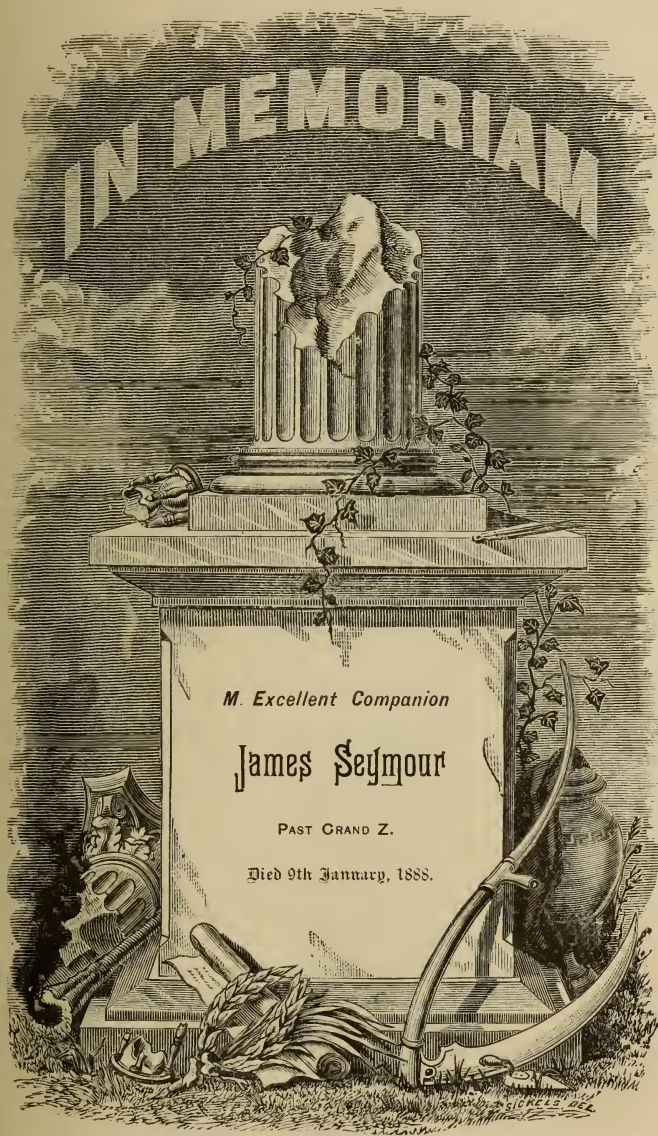
At Rest.

NAME.	NAME AND NUMBER OF CHAPTER.	DATE.
Dumble, Henry.....	1, Anc. Frontenac.	Jan. 26, 1888.
James, A. T.....	2, The Hiram.....	Dec. 26, 1887
Morgan, B. J.....	2, The Hiram.....	March 12, 1888.
McCadden, Wm....	3, St. John's.....	Oct. 22, 1887.
Baxter, H. A.....	5, St. George.....	Jan. 19, 1888.
Wright, E. H.....	6, St. John's.....	Nov. 10, 1885.
Mitchell, F.....	" ".....	
Hancock, Jos.....	" ".....	June 1, 1887.
Orr, J. A.....	" ".....	Aug. 17, 1887.
Malcolm, J. A.....	" ".....	July 30, 1887.
Kerr, E. C.....	" ".....	
Kay, J.....	" ".....	
Hammel, Henry....	" ".....	Nov. 23, 1887.
Robertson, Alex....	7, Moira.....	March 1, 1888.
Walker, John.....	8, King Solomon's.	
Preistman, Joseph..	" ".....	
Lambkin, Thomas..	16, Carleton.....	Oct. 8, 1887.
Kerr, Wm.....	" ".....	Dec. 1, 1887.
Lyon, Robt... ..	" ".....	March 25, 1888.
Walker, Geo.....	19, Mount Moriah..	Dec. 6, 1887.
Seymour, James....	" ".....	Jan. 9, 1888.
Smith, Leonard R. .	" ".....	April 14, 1888.
Stratford, John H..	20, Mount Horeb..	Feb. 12, 1888.
Minaker, Eliphalet..	31, Prince Edward..	April 21, 1888.
Lazier, Geo. I.....	" ".....	April 1, 1887.
Abercrombie, John..	" ".....	May 16, 1887.
Stewart, John.....	36, Corinthian.....	Aug. 8, 1887.
Smith, David T.....	47, Wellington.	July 9, 1887.
Robinson, Edw'd....	" ".....	Jan. 3, 1888.
Hargraft, Wm.....	48, St. John's....	
Rawlinson, T. W...	54, Palestine.....	Sept. 11, 1887.
Hunsburger, M.....	" ".....	May 20, 1888.
Hunter, Chas.....	" ".....	Feb., 1887.
Baird, James.....	" ".....	June 14, 1885.
Griffith, Robert....	" ".....	June, 1886.
Monck, Ernest.....	56, Georgian.....	June 13, 1886.
Irving, Edwin Herb't	60, Doric.....	May 8, 1888.
Murray, Wm. Forbes	66, The Malloch....	Jan. 25, 1888.
Donavan, Frederick.	77, Occident....	Dec. 10, 1886.
Manning, John C....	79, Orient.....	March 21, 1888.
Booth, John Hy....	" ".....	May 30, 1888.
Langton, Stephen Hy	91, Antiquity.....	July 13, 1877.









OFFICERS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER, 1888-9.

M. E. Comp.	R. B. Hungerford, London,	Grand Z.	} Grand Council.
R. E.	" J. J. Mason, Hamilton,	" H.	
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"	" Thos. C. Macnabb, Chatham,	G. Supt.,	St. Clair District.
"	" A. N. Pettit, St. Thomas,	"	London "
"	" M. Walsh, Ingersoll,	"	Wilson "
"	" John Shupe, Galt,	"	Wellington "
"	" C. W. Mulligan, Hamilton,	"	Hamilton "
"	" I. Baker, Stratford,	"	Huron "
"	" T. L. M. Tipton, Dunnville,	"	Niagara "
"	" C. W. Postlethwaite, Toronto	"	Toronto "
"	" W. R. Howse, Whitby,	"	Ontario "
"	" John Waring, Picton,	"	Pr. Edward "
"	" George Gale, Brockville,	"	Central "
"	" Wm. G. Bell, Winnipeg	"	Manitoba "
"	" Jos. D'Amer Drew, Melbourne	"	Australian "
"	" David McLellan, Hamilton	Grand Scribe E.	
"	" Thos. F. Blackwood, Toronto	" " N.	
"	" Benjamin Shortly, Peterboro,	"	Principal Sojourner.
"	" Edward Mitchell, Hamilton,	"	Treasurer.
"	" S. W. Ray, Port Arthur,	"	Registrar.
V.E.	" G. G. Rowe, Parkdale,	"	1st Asst. Sojourner.
"	" Harry Sweetman, Hamilton,	"	2d " "
"	" Alex. McQueen, London,	"	Sword Bearer.
"	" E. C. Fields, Prescott,	"	M. of Veils.
"	" G. A. K. McLeod, Exeter,	"	Stand Bearer.
"	" R. McCaw, Oshawa,	"	Dir. of Ceremonies.
"	" John Knox Leslie, Toronto,	"	Organist.
"	" James Sutherland, Woodstock,	"	Pursuivant.
"	" Wm. F. Walker, Winnipeg,	"	Steward.
"	" Hiram Wellbanks, Picton,	"	"
"	" C. G. McDermott, St. Catharines	"	"
"	" G. V. J. Greenhill, Galt,	"	"
"	" Thomas Coleman, Owen Sound,	"	Janitor.

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R. E. Comp. J. J. Mason, Hamilton, President.

M. E. Comp.	S. Bickerton Harman,	Toronto,	Past Grand Z.
* " "	Chas. D. Macdonald,	Peterboro'	" "
" "	L. H. Henderson,	Belleville,	" "
" "	Fred. J. Menet,	Toronto,	" "
" "	Daniel Spry,	Barrie,	" "
" "	Donald Ross,	Picton,	" "
" "	Henry Macpherson,	Owen Sound	" "
" "	Thomas Sargant,	Toronto,	" "
" "	Robert Hendry, jr.,	Kingston,	" "
" "	Henry Robertson,	Collingwood,	" "
R. E. "	John E. Harding,	Stratford,	Grand J.

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R. E. Comp.	Thomas C. Macnabb,	Chatham,	St. Clair	District
" "	A. N. Pettit,	St. Thomas,	London	"
" "	M. Walsh,	Ingersoll,	Wilson	"
" "	John Shupe,	Galt,	Wellington	"
" "	C. W. Mulligan,	Hamilton,	Hamilton	"
" "	I. Baker,	Stratford,	Huron	"
" "	T. L. M. Tipton,	Dunnville,	Niagara	"
" "	C. W. Postlethwaite,	Toronto,	Toronto	"
" "	W. R. Howse,	Whitby,	Ontario	"
" "	John Waring,	Picton,	Pr. Edward	"
" "	George Gale,	Brockville,	Central	"
" "	Wm. G. Bell,	Winnipeg,	Manitoba	"
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" "	Thos. F. Blackwood,	Toronto,	" " N.

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R. E. Comp.	John Creasor,	Owen Sound.
" "	James B. Nixon,	Toronto.
" "	John Ross Robertson,	Toronto.
" "	Alex. Patterson,	Toronto.
" "	Hugh Murray,	Hamilton.

APPOINTED BY THE GRAND Z.

R. E. Comp.	A. G. Smyth,	London.
" "	Wm. Forbes,	Grimsby.
" "	Wm. G. Reid,	Hamilton.
" "	I. P. Willson,	Welland.
" "	J. McLean Stevenson,	Barrie

* Died 29th July, 1888.

BENEVOLENT COMMITTEE.

R. E. Comp. Otto Klotz,	Preston.
M. E. Comp. Daniel Spry,	Barrie.
R. E. " John S. Dewar,	London.

SUB COMMITTEES.

AUDIT AND FINANCE.

R. E. Comp. James B. Nixon, (Chairman), R. E. Comps. Hugh Murray, Alex. Patterson, A. N. Pettit, W. R. Howse, C. W. Mulligan, I. Baker.

BENEVOLENCE.

R. E. Comp. Otto Klotz, (Chairman), M. E. Comp. Daniel Spry, R. E. Comp. John S. Dewar.

CONDITION OF CAPITULAR MASONRY.

R. E. Comp. John Ross Robertson, (Chairman), R. E. Comps. Wm. Forbes, A. G. Smyth, I. P. Willson, David McLellan, J. E. Harding, T. F. Blackwood.

GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS.

M. E. Comp. Henry Macpherson, (Chairman), R. E. Comps. J. J. Mason, John Creasor, Wm. G. Reid, T. C. Macnabb, C. W. Postlethwaite, J. McL. Stevenson, T. L. M. Tipton.

GRAND Z.'S ADDRESS.

M. E. Comp. Fred. J. Menet, (Chairman), M. E. Comps. Daniel Spry, Thos. Sargant, S. Bickerton Harman, Chas. D. Macdonald, L. H. Henderson, Henry Robertson, Robert Hendry, jr.

WARRANTS.

M. E. Comp. Donald Ross, (Chairman), R. E. Comp. Wm. G. Bell, Geo. Gale, Jos. D'Amer Drew, John Waring, M. Walsh, John Shupe.

CHAIRMAN FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

M. E. Comp. Henry Robertson, - - - Collingwood.

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CANADA FROM FOREIGN GRAND CHAPTERS.

Grand Chapters.		Representatives.	Residences.
Alabama,	R. E. Comp.	Isaac F. Toms,	Goderich.
Arkansas,	" "	John McLaren,	Orangeville.
California,	M. E.	Henry Macpherson,	Owen Sound.
Colorado,	" "	L. H. Henderson,	Belleville.
Connecticut,	" "	Donald Ross,	Picton.
Dakota,	R. E.	R. B. Hungerford,	London.
Delaware,	" "	T. C. Macnabb,	Chatham.
Dist. of Col.,	M. E.	H. Robertson,	Collingwood.
Florida,	R. E.	James Moffat,	London.
Georgia,	" "	David McLellan,	Hamilton.
Illinois,	" "	Wm. Forbes,	Grimsby.
Indiana,	" "	Wm. Hawthorn,	London.
Iowa,	" "		
Kansas,	" "	J. M. Gibson,	Hamilton.
Kentucky,	M. E.	Thos. Sargant,	Toronto.
Louisiana,	R. E.	Edward Mitchell,	Hamilton.
Maine,	" "	John A. Wills,	Toronto.
Maryland,	Ex.	R. L. Patterson,	Toronto.
Massachusetts,	R. E.	Jas. A. Henderson,	Kingston.
Minnesota,	M. E.	Fred J. Menet,	Toronto.
Mississippi,	M. E.	Henry Robertson,	Collingwood.
Missouri,	R. E.	W. J. B. McLeod Moore,	Prescott.
Nebraska,	" "	J. Ross Robertson,	Toronto.
New Brunswick,	V. E.	Hugh A. Mackay,	Berlin.
New Hampshire,	R. E.	John S. Dewar,	London.
New Jersey,	M. E.	Daniel Spry,	Barrie.
Nevada,	R. E.	J. J. Mason,	Hamilton.
New York,	M. E.	H. Robertson,	Collingwood.
North Carolina,	R. E.	Jas. Wilson,	Toronto.
Nova Scotia,	M. E.	Robert Hendry, jr.,	Kingston.
Ohio,	V. E.	H. A. Mackay,	Berlin.
Oregon,	R. E.	R. J. Hovenden,	Toronto.
Pennsylvania,	" "	Donald McPhie,	Hamilton.
Quebec,	M. E.	Daniel Spry,	Barrie.
Rhode Island,	R. E.	J. B. Traves,	Port Hope.
South Carolina,			
Tennessee,	R. E.	Wm. Gibson,	Beamsville.
Texas,	" "	R. Brierley,	Hamilton.
Vermont,	" "	J. B. Nixon,	Toronto.
Virginia,	" "	Alex. Patterson,	Toronto.
Washington Ter.,	" "	Hugh Murray,	Hamilton.
West Virginia,	M. E.	S. B. Harman,	Toronto.
Wisconsin,	R. E.	Gavin Stewart,	Hamilton.
Scotland,	" "	J. K. Kerr,	Toronto.
Gr. Mark L'ge of Eng. & Wales,			

REPRESENTATIVES NEAR FOREIGN GRAND CHAPTERS.
FROM THE GRAND CHAPTER OF CANADA.

Grand Chapters.		Representatives.	Residences.
Alabama,		E. Comp. Jos. H. Johnson,	Talladega.
Arkansas,		" " Geo. L. Kimball,	Dardanelle.
California,	M.	" " N. W. Spaulding,	Oakland.
Colorado,		" " Lawrence N. Greenleaf,	Denver.
Connecticut,		" " W. R. Higby,	Bridgeport.
Dakota,	M.	" " William Blatt,	Yankton.
Delaware,		" " Geo. F. Young,	Wilmington.
Dist. of Col.	M.	" " J. S. McCoy, M. D.,	Washington.
Florida,	M.	" " Robt. J. Perry,	Key West.
Georgia,	M.	" " W. A. Graham,	Fort Gaines.
Illinois,		" " Archibald McLellan,	Chicago.
Indiana,		" " E. L. McLellan,	Columbia City.
Iowa,		" " Jas. W. Wilson,	Newton.
Ireland,		" " J. H. Neilson,	Dublin.
Kansas,	M.	" " Jacob De Witt,	Salina.
Kentucky,	M.	" " H. R. French,	Mt. Sterling.
Louisiana,	R.	" " Andrew Hero, jr.,	New Orleans.
Maine,	M.	" " Andrew J. Fuller,	Bath.
Maryland,		" " J. M. Carter,	Baltimore.
Massachusetts,	R.	" " Edwin Wright,	Boston.
Minnesota,	R.	" " Orville G. Miller,	St. Paul.
Mississippi,	M.	" " A. H. Barkley,	Crawfordsville.
Missouri,	R.	" " M. A. Fyke,	Clinton.
Nebraska,		" " Frank H. Young,	Custer.
New Brunswick,	R.	" " Henry Duffell,	St. John, N. B.
New Hampshire,	R.	" " Alpheus W. Baker,	Lebanon.
New Jersey,	M.	" " W. H. McIlhaney,	New York.
Nevada,	R.	" " S. W. Chubbuck,	Gold Hill.
New York,	R.	" " Horace G. Hopkins,	Willard.
North Carolina,		" " Chas. C. Clarke,	New Berne.
Nova Scotia,		" " L. F. Darling,	Halifax.
Ohio,	R.	" " C. A. Woodward,	Cleveland.
Oregon,		" " Donald McKay,	Portland.
Pennsylvania,	R.	" " Thos. R. Patton,	Philadelphia.
Quebec,			
Rhode Island,	R.	" " W. R. Greene,	Providence.
South Carolina,		" " J. M. Bratten, M. D.,	Yorkville.
Tennessee,		" " Elihu Edmondson,	Pulaski.
Washington Ter.	M.	" " Andrew McCalley,	Walla Walla.
Texas,		" " Henry Scherffius,	Houston.
Vermont,	R.	" " Wm. Brinsmaid,	Burlington.
Virginia,	M.	" " Geo. W. Dame,	Danville.
West Virginia,	R.	" " Frank Johnson,	Wheeling.
Wisconsin,	M.	" " R. D. Pulford,	Mineral Point.
Scotland,	R.	" " The Rt. Hon. the Earl of Kintore,	Carlton Club. London, Eng.
Gr. Mark L'ge of Eng. & Wales,	R.	" " Frederick Binckes,	London, Eng.

GRAND CHAPTERS AND ADDRESSES OF GRAND OFFICERS.

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Arkansas.	W. K. Ramsay, Camden.	Jas. A. Henry, Little Rock.	R. J. Laughlin
California.	Wm. Thomson Luther, Downieville	Thos. H. Caswell, San Francisco.	Thos. H. Caswell, San Francisco
Canada.	R. B. Hungerford, London.	David McLellan (G.S.E.), Hamilton	Henry Robertson, Collingwood
Colorado.	Ernest L. N. Foster, Georgetown.	Samuel H. Thompson, Durango. .	L. N. Greenleaf, Denver
Connecticut. . .	Augustus E. Blakeslee, Thomaston	Jos. K. Wheeler, Hartford.	John H. Barlow, Birmingham
Dakota.	Jno. F. Schrader, Rapid City.	Thos. J. Wilder, Casselton.	Thomas J. Wilder, Casselton
Delaware.	Jos. A. Bond, Wilmington.	Jas. H. Price, Wilmington.	Harry Young, Wilmington
Dist. of Columbia	Will. A. Short, Washington.	Lewis G. Stephens, Washington. .	Wm. R. Singleton, Washington
Florida.	Marcus Endel, Gainsville.	DeWitt C. Dawkins, Jacksonville.	Enos Wasgate
Georgia.	Jas. W. Taylor, Luthersville.	A. M. Wolihin, Macon.	
Illinois.	Philander W. Barclay, Cairo.	Gil. W. Barnard, Chicago.	John M. Pearson, Godfrey
Indiana.	Calvin W. Prather, Jeffersonville.	John M. Bramwell, Indianapolis. .	Thomas B. Long
Iowa.	C. H. Cogswell, Cedar Rapids.	John C. Parish, Des Moines.	Clark Varnum
Kansas.	Geo. W. Port, Beloit.	John H. Brown, Kansas City.	John H. Brown, Kansas City
Kentucky.	J. Soule Smith, Lexington.	Jos. H. Branham, Louisville.	H. B. Grant
Louisiana.	Richard Lambert, New Orleans. .	Jas. C. Batchelor, New Orleans. .	J. Potts Horner, New Orleans
Maine.	Frank E. Sleeper, Sabatis.	Irā Berry, Portland.	Josiah H. Drummond, Portland
Maryland.	Hy. C. Larabee, Baltimore.	Geo. L. McCahan, Baltimore.	Ed. T. Shultz, Baltimore
Massachusetts. .	Arthur G. Pollard, Lowell.	Alfred P. Chapman, Boston.	John W. Dadmun, Boston
Michigan.	Benjamin F. Watts, Ann Arbor. .	Wm. P. Innes, Grand Rapids.	Wm. P. Innes, Grand Rapids
Minnesota.	W. F. Dickinson, Redwood Falls.	A. T. C. Pierson, St. Paul.	A. T. C. Pierson, St. Paul
Mississippi.	Chas. T. Chamberlain, Natches. .	J. L. Power, Jackson.	P. M. Savery
Missouri.	Wm. B. Wilson, Cape Girardeau.	W. H. Mayo, St. Louis.	W. H. Mayo, St. Louis
Nebraska.	Lucius D. Richards, Tremont.	Wm. R. Bowen, Omaha.	Wm. R. Bowen, Omaha

GRAND CHAPTERS AND ADDRESSES OF GRAND OFFICERS.—Continued.

GRAND CHAPTERS	GRAND HIGH PRIESTS.	GRAND SECRETARIES.	CHAIRMAN FOR CORRESPONDENCE.
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New Jersey.....	Leonard L. Grear, Passaic Bridge.	Geo. B. Edwards, Jersey City....	John D. Hammond
Nevada.....	Robt. L. Fulton, Reno	Chauncey N. Noteware, Carson..	Darius A. Ogden
New York.....	Wm. Sherer, 1203 Dean St, Brookl'n	Christopher G. Fox, Buffalo.	James Southgate, Durham
North Carolina..	G. H. Bell, Brooklyn.....	Donald W. Bain, Raleigh.....	
Nova Scotia.....	Jno. W. Ruhland, Halifax.....	Benj. Curren (G.S.E.), Halifax ..	
Ohio.....	Jacob L'H Long, Ottawa	Emmet V. Rhoads, St. Paris.....	Graff M. Acklin, Toledo
Oregon.....	R. F. Gibbons, The Dallas	R. P. Earhart, Salem.....	T. McF. Patton, Salem
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South Carolina..	Morris Clarke, Marion.....	J. E. Burke, Charleston.....	J. E. Burke, Charleston
Tennessee.....	W. R. Shaver, New Middleton....	John Frizzell, Nashville.....	Jno. Frizzell
Texas.....	W. L. Sartwell, Comanche.....	Robert Brewster, Houston.....	T. C. Kidd, Houston
Virginia.....	S. J. Quinn, Fredericksburg.....	W. B. Isaacs, Richmond.....	W. B. Isaacs, Richmond
Vermont.....	Marsh O. Perkins, Windsor.....	Warren G. Reynolds, Burlington..	Fred. S. Fisher, St. Johnsbury
Washington Ter.	Walter Jas. Thompson, Tacoma ..	Thomas Milburne Reed, Olympia..	Thomas M. Reed, Olympia
West Virginia...	Jos. Hall, Wheeling.....	John W. Morris, Wheeling.....	
Wisconsin.....	Duncan McGregor, Platteville.....	John W. Lafin, Milwaukee.....	Wm. C. Swain
Gen. Gr. Chapt'r	N. D. Larnier, Washington, D. C.	Christopher G. Fox, Buffalo.....	
England.....	H. R. H. the Prince of Wales.....	Col. Shadwell Clerke, London....	
Ireland.....	Hon. Judge Townsend.....		
Scotland.....	Col. Sir A. C. Campbell, Bart.	W. Edwards (G.S.E.), Edinburg..	
Gr. Mark Lodge	H. R. H. the Prince of Wales.....	F. Binckes, 8a Red Line Square,	
of Eng. & Wales		Holborn, W. C.....	

LIST OF CHAPTERS—BY DISTRICTS.

NO. 1, ST. CLAIR DISTRICT.

Grand District Superintendent—R. E. Comp. Thomas C. Macnabb, Chatham.

No. 47,	Wellington, Chatham.....	Kent	County.
“ 71,	Prince of Wales, Amherstburg	Essex	“
“ 73,	Erie, Ridgetown	Kent	“
“ 80,	Ark, Windsor.....	Essex	“
“ 88,	Macnabb, Dresden.....	Kent	“

NO. 2, LONDON DISTRICT.

Grand District Superintendent—R. E. Comp. A. N. Pettit, St. Thomas.

No. 3,	St. John's, London.....	Middlesex	County
“ 5,	St. George's, London.....	“	“
“ 15,	Wawanosh, Sarnia.....	Lambton	“
“ 53,	Bruce, Petrolia.....	“	“
“ 54,	Palestine, St. Thomas.....	Elgin	“
“ 74,	Beaver, Strathroy.....	Middlesex	“
“ 78,	Minnewawa, Parkhill.....	“	“
“ 81,	Aylmer, Aylmer.....	Elgin	“

NO. 3, WILSON DISTRICT.

Grand District Superintendent—R. E. Comp. M. Walsh, Ingersoll.

No. 18,	Oxford, Woodstock.....	Oxford	County
“ 20,	Mount Horeb, Brantford.....	Brant	“
“ 23,	Ezra, Simcoe.....	Norfolk	“
“ 41,	Harris, Ingersoll.....	Oxford	“

NO. 4, WELLINGTON DISTRICT.

Grand District Superintendent—R. E. Comp. John Shupe, Galt.

No. 32,	Waterloo, Galt.....	Waterloo	County
“ 40,	Guelph, Guelph.....	Wellington	“
“ 49,	Elora, Elora.....	“	“
“ 67,	Enterprise, Harriston.....	“	“
“ 83,	Ionic, Orangeville.....	Dufferin	“

NO. 5, HAMILTON DISTRICT.

Grand District Superintendent—R. E. Comp. C. W. Mulligan, Hamilton.

No. 2,	The Hiram, Hamilton.....	Wentworth	County
“ 6,	St. John's, Hamilton.....	“	“
“ 75,	St. Clair, Milton.....	Halton	“
“ 87,	Wentworth, Dundas.....	Wentworth	“

NO. 6, HURON DISTRICT.

Grand District Superintendent—R. E. Comp. I. Baker, Stratford.

No. 24,	Tecumseh, Stratford.....	Perth	County
" 30,	Huron, Goderich.....	Huron	"
" 46,	St. James', St. Mary's.....	Perth	"
" 63,	Havelock, Kincardine.....	Bruce	"
" 66,	The Malloch, Clinton.....	Huron	"
" 84,	Lebanon, Wingham.....	"	"
" 85,	Exeter, Exeter... ..	"	"

NO. 7, NIAGARA DISTRICT.

Grand District Superintendent—R. E. Comp. T. L. M. Tipton, Dunnville.

No. 19,	Mount Moriah, St. Catharines.....	Lincoln	County
" 29,	McCallum, Dunnville.....	Monk	"
" 55,	Niagara, Niagara.....	Lincoln	"
" 57,	King Hiram, Port Colborne.....	Welland	"
" 64,	Willson, Welland.....	"	"
" 69,	Grimsby, Grimsby.....	Lincoln	"
" 76,	Mount Nebo, Niagara Falls South.....	Welland	"

NO. 8, TORONTO DISTRICT.

Grand District Superintendent—R. E. Comp. C.W. Postlethwaite, Toronto.

No. 4,	St. Andrew and St. John, Toronto.....	York	County
" 8,	King Solomon's, Toronto.....	"	"
" 27,	Manitou, Collingwood.....	Simcoe	"
" 34,	Signet, Barrie.....	"	"
" 38,	Seymour, Bradford.....	"	"
" 56,	Georgian, Owen Sound.....	Grey	"
" 60,	Doric, Newmarket.. ..	York	"
" 62,	York, Eglinton.....	"	"
" 65,	St. Paul's, Toronto.....	"	"
" 77,	Occident, Toronto.....	"	"
" 79,	Orient, Toronto.....	"	"
" 86,	Macpherson, Meaford.....	Grey	"
" 91,	Antiquity, Parkdale.....	York	"
" 92,	Spry, Alliston.....	Simcoe	"
" 95,	Tuscan, Brampton.....	Peel	"

NO. 9, ONTARIO DISTRICT.

Grand District Superintendent—R. E. Comp. W. R. Howse, Whitby.

No. 28,	Pentalpha, Bowmanville.....	Durham	County
" 35,	Keystone, Whitby.....	Ontario	"
" 36,	Corinthian, Peterboro'.....	Peterboro'	"
" 37,	Victoria, Port Hope.....	Durham	"
" 45,	Excelsior, Colborne.....	Northumb'd	"
" 48,	St. John's, Cobourg.....	"	"
" 94,	Midland, Lindsay.....	Victoria	"

NO. 10, PRINCE EDWARD DISTRICT.

Grand District Superintendent—R. E. Comp. John Waring, Picton.

No. 7, Moira, Belleville	Hastings	County
" 26, St. Mark's Trenton.....	"	"
" 31, Prince Edward, Picton.....	Pr. Edward	"
" 44, Mount Sinai, Napanee.....	Lennox	"

NO. 11, CENTRAL DISTRICT,

Grand District Superintendent—R. E. Comp. George Gale, Brockville.

No. 1, Ancient Frontenac and Cataraqui, Kingston...	Frontenac	County
" 16, Carleton, Ottawa.....	Carleton	"
" 22, Grenville Prescott.....	Grenville	"
" 58, Pembroke, Pembroke.....	Renfrew	"
" 59, Sussex, Brockville.....	Leeds	"
" 61, Granite, Almonte.....	Lanark	"
" 68, Maitland, North Augusta.....	Grenville	"

NO. 12, MANITOBA DISTRICT.

Grand District Superintendent—R. E. Comp. Wm. G. Bell, Winnipeg.

No. 52, Prince Rupert, Winnipeg.....	Manitoba	
" 82, Shuniah, Port Arthur.....	Algoma District	
" 90, Golden, Rat Portage.....	Rainey River	

NO. 13, AUSTRALIAN DISTRICT.

Grand District Superintendent—R. E. Comp. Jos. D'Amer Drew.

No. 93, Metropolitan, Melbourne.....	Australia	
" 96, Australasian Kilwinning, Melbourne.....	"	
" 97, City of Melbourne, Melbourne.....	"	

APPENDIX.

1888.

GRAND CHAPTER OF CANADA.

REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE.

HENRY ROBERTSON, CHAIRMAN.

*To the Most Excellent Grand Z., and the Grand Chapter of
Royal Arch Masons of Canada :*

Your Committee on Correspondence beg to present for your consideration the *twenty-first* report prepared by the present chairman.

This long term of service has not been without its advantages in enabling your committee to profit by the experience gained from year to year, to seize upon the salient points in each volume of the proceedings reviewed and to present them in the most concise and readable form. There are probably some disadvantages also, but a wise discretion will allow others to point out the defects.

Some of our brother reporters have found fault because we have not commented upon the various matters appearing in the proceedings as fully as we might have done, but, really, in the course of the last twenty years, we have fully expressed our views upon every topic of importance that has arisen.

We write mainly for the information of the Companions in our own jurisdiction and we believe it is not the province of this committee to indulge in long dissertations or to repeat what has been said before, but rather to summarize, to give the latest news from other jurisdictions and to enable our readers to enjoy some of the good things from other quarters which they cannot otherwise obtain.

At the same time, these reports have been found to be of service in the discussion of matters of moment to the whole craft, wheresoever dispersed, and in the harmonizing of diverse views to the general improvement of the fraternity. The writers generally are men of ability and great experience in the workings of our peculiar institution, and something may always be learned, something gained, in the perusal of the opinions of those who have made Masonry a study.

We have endeavored from time to time to contribute our mite of criticism or exposition on these occasions and have also learned to value and esteem the exertions of our co-workers in this field of Masonic labor. We hope that our efforts heretofore have been satisfactory to the Companions of the Grand Chapter of Canada. We have heard no complaints from them, and our continuance in this position is surely an evidence of their favor and we would be very much pleased to receive any suggestions they may have to offer towards the improvement of these reports.

The general condition of the capitular branch of the Royal Art at the present time is favorable. In most of the jurisdictions it is holding its own and more than its own, in spite of the serious competition of the many rival societies and organizations that have now spread themselves over the whole country. The total membership has increased sufficiently to indicate a prosperous and live association. In some quarters, however, there is displayed a lack of interest, caused mainly, we believe, by the neglect of the Companions to attend the meetings of their Chapters. This defect can and should be remedied by energetic action on behalf of the presiding officers. They should do something to make the meetings more interesting.

There are hosts of subjects in Masonry and a reading or a short lecture or a discussion on some Masonic topic would bring the members together and raise the Chapter from the dead level of inanition. Even the reading of some passages from these reports would enliven the members, cause reflection

and enquiry, and thereby revive interest in the meetings. Grand officers should urge this method of procedure, or some similar one, upon the officers of subordinates, or they also will be held neglectful of their duty.

A list of the proceedings reviewed and also a list of those not received will be found at the end of this report.

ALABAMA.

Sixty-first annual convocation, Montgomery, Dec. 6th, 1887.

M. E. Comp. William Wallace Screws, G. H. P.

On the state of the craft he says :

“I find but little except matters of routine business for me to present in this report. We are to be congratulated on the improved outlook for Royal Arch Masonry. In many jurisdictions a large amount of work has been done, and in our own, increased interest has been manifested. No new Chapters have been organized, but indications point to several during the coming year. Under a resolution adopted by the last Grand Convocation, any Chapter that had forfeited its charter can be revived by payment of one year's dues. A circular letter embodying the resolutions was sent to all such Chapters, and some correspondence ensued, though as yet without actual result.”

He believes there will be increased activity after a time. There were no appeals and he was not asked for a single official ruling. He made several official visits and recommends the adoption of a resolution making it the duty of one of the Grand officers to visit any Chapter calling for such. He advocates a change in the time of meeting of Grand Chapter, separate from the Grand Lodge, as the delegates generally leave as soon as the Grand Lodge is over.

No action appears to have been taken upon his recommendations and the Grand Chapter closed after a small amount of routine work and the election of officers.

The report on correspondence is by Comp. P. J. Pillans. Our proceedings for 1887 are noticed.

Since the meeting of the Grand Chapter, Comp. Daniel Sayre, Grand Secretary, has departed this life. He was a very old and faithful member of the fraternity, and his loss will be

deeply deplored. We tender to our Companions in Alabama our sincerest sympathy.

M. E. Comp. J. H. Johnson, (Talladega), G.H.P.

R. E. Comp. Adam R. Baker, (Montgomery), G. S.

ARKANSAS.

Thirty-eighth annual convocation, Little Rock, November 24th, 1887.

M. E. Comp. W. W. Garland, G. H. P.

He reports the Order in a prosperous condition and harmony prevailing. Several Chapters have been revived with good promise for the future. He formed one new Chapter.

We extract the following from the memorial to their Past Grand High Priest, Luke E. Barber. Comp. Barber was well known throughout the country and in other lands and we tender our hearty sympathy to our Companions in Arkansas in their misfortune :

“Verily the hand of affliction and loss hath of late been heavily laid upon us! In how short a time have we seen the Chiefs of the Fathers among us go from us “into the silent land.” One by one have our foremost ones gone down beneath the sullen stroke of the Destroyer; and now the long list is made greater by the adding of the new name of our beloved Companion Barber. The last time this Grand Chapter met, one year ago, he was with us; his tottering form sadly attesting the weight of increased years; having come, as he said, to take his leave of us. Too sadly true were the words that he spake, for to-day the cold silence of the grave lies upon him, and his place in our midst knows him no more.

It will not be the purpose of this memorial to give a detailed account of his Masonic services, but only that which relates to Capitular Masonry; and then that which is to be said can necessarily not be stated in full, but must, from the nature of things, “be given in outline and no more.”

Companion Barber was made a Royal Arch Mason in Union Chapter, No. 2, at Little Rock, in December, 1850, and was Most Excellent High Priest thereof in 1853. He was Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter for the years 1851 to 1853, and again from 1869 to 1880; and was Most Excellent Grand High Priest 1855-56, and from 1861 to 1869; thus representing a period of active service in this branch of Masonry extending over almost a quarter of a century. Few are there, here or elsewhere, who have been more diligent and zealous in the cause; few are there who have more assiduously rendered their allotted services

He was a kind friend, a true Mason, a devoted husband, a generous, upright citizen; walking his way through the world at peace with all mankind; until in a ripe and advanced age, full of honors and years, “God’s finger touched him and he slept,”

The business transacted was entirely local and has no special features of interest.

No report on correspondence.

M. E. Comp, W. K. Ramsay, (Camden), G.H.P.

R. E. Comp. James A. Henry, (Little Rock), G. S.

CALIFORNIA.

Thirty-third annual convocation, San Francisco, April 26th, 1887.

M. E. Comp. Benjamin F. Tuttle, G.H.P.

The craft in this jurisdiction have enjoyed a reasonable degree of prosperity. Their general harmony is conclusive evidence of their intelligence and knowledge of Masonic law.

Two new Chapters were established.

We copy two of the closing paragraphs of the excellent address of the Grand High Priest :

“Companions, you will observe that I have deviated slightly from the regular annual address, and hinted at some things on which it may be well for Royal Arch Masons to ponder. If, however, Masonry is to cut any figure in the future as a great moral conservative force, any departure which will cause our Order to rise and meet the demands of the hour, is not only justifiable, but an imperative duty. As a striking fact which may inspire us to look ahead of the present and prepare us to perform our part well in affairs which none can evade, a lesson may be learned from a single race of people which is to-day a living link between the past and the present. “The civil polity of the Israelites, under the leadership of Moses, was founded in the midst of moral, physical and intellectual decay.” They emerged from Egyptian darkness, where for ages they had been held in bondage ; but during all this period of time these people were preserved by their strict moral and physical code. They possessed poets, priests, prophets and kings ; and whether we are to attribute their progress in those dark ages to the special favor of Providence, or the ability to inaugurate a wise statesmanship, the fact remains. The effects of the civil polity of this people were demonstrated in the wisdom of Solomon, and through two thousand years of persecution, have survived and are a living activity in our present civilization. The story of Israel, old though it be, is an instructive lesson, which may be studied with profit by a generation which is inclined to “believe that all wisdom was rocked in its cradle, and will be buried in its grave.”

In view of consequences which these reflections suggest as possible, why may not Masonry put in its plea for the higher interests of humanity in the preservation of human rights, in the advancement of science and art, and in the propagation of social, moral and intellectual elevation? Must we ask, has Masonry any other mission than to follow its ceremonials, or is it to be a living activity in the progress of civilization? I believe it has, and that it

should become the duty of Royal Arch Masons to keep abreast of the best thought of the age. If tradition be correct, its mission was not only to benefit its immediate members, but that its influence should radiate and bring into accord with its advanced thought those outside its immediate circle. It follows, as light follows darkness, that any great conservative force will extend its influence to surrounding objects. Thus it should be with Masonry. Organized for the protection of its members, it has extended its influence over many lands, and has performed a part in civilization. Its mission, I trust, is not yet exhausted, although coming in contact with the active forces of the present age. Our Order should not rest on the accomplished good of the past, but appear at the front to discharge the duties of the hour. Royal Arch Masons should be living witnesses of the good intent of the Order. In this manner we will convince the world that the cause of humanity will never suffer at our hands, and that civil liberty will always find its firmest supporters among Free and Accepted Masons."

The Committee on Jurisprudence submitted a lengthy report, giving their reasons for what has been called their interference in another branch of Masonry. These reasons appear to be conclusive, and as the whole report is very interesting and may be useful to our companions here, we insert it entire. The historical part shows that the "Cerneau" branch of the Scottish Rite is certainly not one that should be encouraged. It seems to be a fraud of the first water.

At the last annual session of this Grand Body, Comp. F. E. BAKER offered the following resolution:—

"Resolved, That General Regulation No. 21, adopted at the thirtieth Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter, held at Masonic Temple, in the city and county of San Francisco, California, on Monday, April 8, 1884 A. I. 2414, be and the same is hereby repealed."

This resolution was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, and your committee, having given the matter their serious consideration, fraternally submit their report.

The regulation referred to is to be found on page 331, proceedings of 1886, and recites the bodies known to be legitimate Masonic powers and acknowledged as such by the Masonic world. It also declares that any Royal Arch Mason who shall take or receive any so-called Masonic degree other than those enumerated, shall be liable to be expelled from his rights and privileges as a Royal Arch Mason.

The reasons generally urged in support of the resolution repealing the regulation are, that the Grand Chapter can know nothing of any system of Masonry other than that pertaining to its organization; that it is not competent to pass upon the claims of foreign bodies; and, even if it were, would be going beyond its proper sphere of action in so doing. In considering this matter your committee declare that, while, as a general rule, we doubt the propriety of the Grand Chapter assuming the right to decide upon the legitimacy of parties in dispute outside of our own system, we nevertheless

contend that when our reciprocal relations with other legitimate Masonic powers, as also the harmony of our constituent Chapters, are concerned, we think it not only within the province, but that it becomes the duty, of this Grand Body to employ all its powers in the preservation of order. We cannot question the right or the propriety of this Grand Body to place itself upon record at this or any future time, or whenever the acts of similar disturbers of our Masonic peace may warrant such action.

The Grand Lodges, Grand Chapters, and Grand Commanderies of several of the States—notably those of Massachusetts, Louisiana, Minnesota, New York and Ohio—have spoken in no uncertain tones upon the mischievous work of this body of “Speculative Masons,” who insist upon selling their wares regardless of jurisdictional lines or the universal laws which govern Masonic legitimacy.

In order to consider intelligently the proposed legislation, we submit a short review of the organizations named in the regulation:—

There are thirty-three (33) Supreme Councils in the world, twenty-seven (27) of which are in close compact, to wit: Those of the Northern and Southern Jurisdiction of the United States, France, Spain, Belgium, Ireland, Brazil, Peru, New Grenada, England, Wales, Scotland, Uruguay, Mexico, Hungary, the Dominican Republic, the Argentine Republic, Turin, Italy, Colon, Cuba, Venezuela, Portugal, Chili, Greece, Central America, Switzerland, Canada, Egypt and Tunis. The remaining six (6) that have not yet been received into the family of Supreme Councils are those of Florence, Luxembourg, Naples, Palermo, Rome and Turkey.

The aforementioned Supreme Councils of the Scottish Rite are governed by the spirit of the Congress held at Lucerne, Switzerland, September 22, 1875, recognizing and proclaiming the Constitutions of 1786 as the fundamental law. They obligated themselves to maintain and defend, with all their power, the territorial jurisdiction of the several Supreme Councils, among which were the Supreme Councils of the Northern and Southern Jurisdictions of the United States. There are two (2) illegitimate Bodies claiming to be of the Scottish Rite, having their Grand East in the city of New York, pretending to have jurisdiction over the United States.

This disturbing element of the Scottish Rite found their claims upon the pretensions of one Joseph Cerneau, who was the parent of two illegitimate organizations referred to in this report. This Joseph Cerneau was a Frenchman, born in 1764; a refugee from Cuba, who arrived in New York in 1806. Bro. Ehlers, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of New York, certifies that the name of Joseph Cerneau cannot be found on the registry of the Grand Lodge of Masons from the time of his arrival in 1806 to 1827, the year he left for France, and where he died in 1829; and it seems that for the twenty-one (21) years of his residence in the United States he remained an unaffiliated Mason.

In an exhaustive review of the Masonic career of this man, prepared under the direction of, and by authority of, the Supreme Council of France and its dependencies, this Joseph Cerneau is published to the Masonic world as an impostor, whose life seems to have been spent in claiming honors to which he had no title, and assuming unauthorized powers and duties. As a result, neither of the Bodies claiming his parentage is recognized by a Supreme Council in this world, nor are their members acknowledged as brethren of the Rite.

It is true that in times past the Cerneau organization enjoyed sundry recognitions by Foreign Grand Bodies. That of 1811, by the Grand Orient of France, however, was of a Consistory of Princes of the Royal Secret, and not of a Council of the Thirty-third Degree.

There was also a recognition under the treaty between France, Brazil, Belgium and the United Supreme Council of the Western Hemisphere, in 1832, and of New Grenada and France in 1860, and there was an attempted forgery to that end in 1862. These isolated instances, however, were but the struggling attempts for recognition by an illegitimate body of pretenders.

Bro. Stickney, a late Ambassador from one of these two Cerneau Bodies to the Supreme Council of France, became so disgusted at the result of his investigations that he abandoned his mission and repudiated his employers. His letters are on file, and can be seen by anyone interested, at the office of the Secretary General of the Supreme Council of the Southern Jurisdiction at Washington.

In connection with the conceded acknowledgements by Foreign Jurisdictions, we will state here that on the twenty-third of August, 1830, the Grand Orient of France notified the Supreme Councils for the Northern and Southern Jurisdictions of the United States, that Joseph Cerneau had been stricken from their tableaux.

The records of the Cerneau organization from 1816 to 1827 are in the archives of the Supreme Council for the Northern Jurisdiction at Boston, and many are in the office of the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of New York.

As a veteran Masonic writer of the East remarks : " The most zealous follower of Cerneauism, if he is conversant with the history of the Scottish Rite, is aware that the Cerneau body first lived a disputed life, then slept, then died, then attempted revival, then evolutionized under one title, then under another, at one time covering all the States, then only one or more, then disbanding—dividing up its Masonry or money, then resurrecting under a brand new title and a new authority, and attempting the perpetuating of a life honorable only in the closing of its career."

And concerning the interests that we, as Royal Arch Masons, have in this matter, the Grand High Priest of New York, in his address to the Grand Chapter, says : " I have to inform the Grand Chapter of the existence of clandestine Chapters in the city of New York, established by H. C. Atwood and under a Consistory warrant from the Cerneau Consistory, by which he confers not only all the degrees of the Chapter, but also the orders of Knighthood."

While writing this report we have read the action of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, Minnesota, and the dignified rejoinder of Massachusetts to the criticisms upon her former action regarding the subject of this report ; and Bro. Fellows, of Louisiana, well expresses our views when he writes : " After reading all that has thus far been published upon the action of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, we are of the opinion such action was both timely and proper in order to maintain its prerogatives as the body paramount of Masonry in that jurisdiction."

Your Committee think the action of the Grand Lodge sound and founded in the right to declare what are and what are not Masonic bodies. The operations of the Cerneauites in our State affect more directly the

interests of the Grand Chapter than either of the other Masonic organizations, and we feel that this Grand Chapter should stand firm in its assertion of the right to declare what are and what are not Masonic bodies in this jurisdiction.

We fully endorse the views expressed by our frater of Mississippi in his last report, "that Freemasonry has one common" origin, and the legitimate family—however subdivided, wherever located, or how designated—is a unity in its Masonic or family sense; provided, that the landmarks, traditions, tenets, and symbolism of Freemasonry are preserved therein, and belief in God, love to the brotherhood, and charity to all mankind a prerequisite to any participation in their mysteries, and as such are entitled to their appropriate place and recognition as members of the Masonic family; provided again, however, that the ancient Constitution, laws, rules, regulations, and usages of the Craft are in no wise disregarded by such bodies.

And we understand the main supports of the original plan of Masonry to be unqualified respect for and obedience to duly constituted authority, and a loyal allegiance to the same, at the same time holding in contempt all dissenters and clandestine pretenders of whatever rite or degree. The pretence that the Master Mason or the Mason of the Royal Arch may not judge of the claims of this Corneau mystery, for the reason that they cannot judge of the legality of an organization of which they know nothing, has no weight with us.

The Neophyte desiring to become a Mason of any degree must determine for himself of the legal right of the organization he petitions to confer upon him the rights and privileges he seeks at their hands; and he asks and obtains the testimony of the Masonic world, that the Body is a legitimate and an acknowledged Masonic power.

Tried by this unerring rule, the subjects of this inquiry are at once detected as without legitimate ancestry, of ignoble birth, they are endeavoring to avoid the inevitable result of a life of prostitution, by calling attention to the cheapness of their wares, and slandering the recognized head of their professed beloved Rite in the world.

The members of your committee have promised, while serving the Fraternity in other stations "to respect genuine brethren and to discountenance imposters and all dissenters from the original plan of Masonry." And it seems to us that the Supreme Councils of the Northern and Southern Jurisdictions of the United States, sustained by a membership extending to every State and Territory in the Union, with the good wishes of the friends of order and organization everywhere, are deserving at our hands this acknowledgement of their Masonic standing. As Bro. Drummond, of Maine, says: "We regret to hear intimations that the supporters of the doctrine contained in the Massachusetts amendment (from which our Regulation 21 is copied) are 'High Masons,' and are influenced by the desire to bolster up the 'high degrees' at the expenses of Symbolic Masonry. We wish to call the attention of those who make this intimation to the fact, that the brethren thus assailed have been for years the support and stay of Blue Masonry, and active in the discharge of its duties, and have labored and sacrificed more for it than any other brethren in the jurisdiction in which we live. For example, the amendment was adopted in Massachusetts during the Grand Mastership of Bro. Samuel C. Lawrence, who has given more time, work and money to Symbolic Masonry than any other Mason within her borders, And go where you will, the

same state of facts exists. The assailers of the principle contained in the amendment will have to find some argument against it, other than the imputation of improper motives on the part of its supporters.

We term this Cerneau invasion unmasonic, because we see in its history a continuous effort to overthrow the established and duly constituted authority of the Rite, to which they profess allegiance.

We term it unlawful, for in addition to its disregard for the judgement of the Masonic world respecting its legal existence, it is showing through its illegitimate missionary results inflicted upon our jurisdiction, a contemptuous refusal to obey the regulations of this Grand Chapter.

The several Bodies named in Regulation 21, are recognized Masonic powers, not only in the United States, but throughout the world. No other Masonic Body can be established here without the concurrence of the existing Bodies of the Rite affected by it, and no such concurrence having been given, the so-called Supreme Council of the United States of America is a spurious and clandestine concern, originated with intent to deceive and fraudulently trespass on the jurisdiction of an established Body.

The adoption of Regulation No. 21, was the protest of this Grand Chapter against the violation of the generally accepted doctrine of the alliance of all regularly constituted and acknowledged Masonic powers—to respect the rights of each, and sustain each other in the vindication of their legal acts, and at all times to add their influence in behalf of genuine organization, and against unlawful, clandestine disturbers of the Masonic peace.

Your committee do not endorse the assertion that the Grand Chapter went beyond the pale of its proper sphere in enacting General Regulation No. 21. And it seems to us, that of all its powers and duties, its greatest obligation is, first, to protect itself and the integrity of its organization; and second, only to this first great duty, is the obligation to defend and maintain by acknowledgment, by acts of discipline and by the exercise of all its legitimate and legal influence upon its membership, the rights of kindred organizations of undoubted acknowledged legitimacy.

We look to our co-workers in the various branches of Masonry for the defence of its integrity whenever assailed in their immediate obedience. "Let us do unto others as we would that they should do unto us."

For nearly half a century the harmony of the great brotherhood has been undisturbed, the different departments all having for their foundation the ground floor of our mystic Temple; have pursued their way—each in its allotted sphere—without discord or jealousy. So well understood and defined have been the powers of each that no charge or interference with the inherent powers of one, have been alleged against the acts of either of the others. The lines are clean cut and understood by all who have given the subject any thought.

The General Regulations of the Masonic world are emphatic, and the acknowledgments of the legitimate bodies proclaimed with entire unanimity. If, perhaps, only the Scottish Rite membership of the bodies owing allegiance to this Grand Chapter, were effected by the evils which rendered necessary the passage of this Regulation, still, the effect of its repeal would be demoralizing and injurious to all. For your committee believe that as Masons, we are so constituted that what we do in opposition to constituted

authority in one branch of Masonry effects disastrously all others. If encouraged by success in this instance, may not these parties—or others—stray still farther away, as has been the case in Louisiana and New York, and delude the unwary into their self-made Blue Lodges, Chapters and Councils with independent governing bodies. Bad examples are infectious and multiply difficulties, although true it is that those who go into the movement will learn by experience that the gain of temporary honors will not compensate for the injury done to Masonic obedience, to respect to law and constituted authority.

It is but fair to respect the officials of the established Order in our jurisdiction who seek to maintain the standard of authority, and a generous support should be given them as co-workers in a legitimate Masonic organization.

General Regulation twenty-one recites an historical truth. The policy at the time of making the declaration may be questioned, but having declared the truth your committee think it would be unwise to reconsider the declaration, and by that act give color to the charge that the regulation was unnecessary. For these reasons your committee feel that the regulation should not be disturbed, and in accordance therewith we recommend that Companion Baker's resolution be not adopted."

On the position of non-affiliated Royal Arch Masons, the following general regulation was adopted :

"It shall be the duty of every Royal Arch Mason to be a member of some Chapter, and every non-affiliated Royal Arch Mason who, having resided six months within this State, shall neglect to make application for membership to some Chapter therein, shall be deemed to occupy the same position as those suspended for non-payment of dues ; and shall not be entitled to, nor be the recipient of any of the rights, privileges or benefits of Capitular Masonry.

Non-affiliated Royal Arch Masons who occupy the position referred to in the preceding section, and who desire to restore themselves by affiliation, may do so upon payment of a sum equivalent to six months dues of the Chapter to which they shall apply, in addition to the affiliation fee, if any, required by its by-laws."

The report on correspondence is by Comp. Thomas H. Caswell, and notices Canada for 1886. In explanation of the action of our Grand Chapter, as requested by Comp. Caswell, we may say that Comp. Hugh Murray, the immediate Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, and a most distinguished worker in Craft Masonry, had never been a member of the Grand Chapter. He was a Royal Arch Mason, but had never held either of the three chief offices in a Chapter, which entitle the holder to membership in the Grand Chapter. During the year then past, the Grand Chapter of Washington Territory appointed Comp. Murray as their Representative and

in order to enable him to hold this position, as well as on account of his own merits and valuable Masonic services, the Grand Chapter resolved to confer upon him the rank of Past Z., (equivalent to Past High Priest,) and as a necessary sequence, he must also be put in possession of the three "chair" degrees of J., H., and Z.

M. E. Comp. Michael J. Keating, (San Francisco), G.H.P.

R. E. Comp. Thomas H. Caswell. (San Francisco), G.S.

COLORADO.

Thirteenth annual convocation, September 22nd, 1887, at Denver.

M. E. Comp. Christopher C. Gird, G.H.P.

He reports the Order as a whole, in a healthy condition, but with some apathy and carelessness, certain irregularities have been permitted. He recommends the division of the State into districts, with district deputies to visit each Chapter, He had no serious complaints. His only reported decision is as follows :

"The written and printed by-laws of that Chapter provide that the election of officers shall be held on the last Convocation before St. John's day. They were amended several years ago to conform to the regulations of the Grand Chapter, but through some one's neglect neither the written or printed by-laws had been changed, and consequently the Secretary did not issue notice of election.

At the first meeting in December some one discovered that it was the proper meeting for election, and the Sentinel went out on the street and found a few companions and the election was held.

The by-laws also provide that no member shall be eligible to office or vote without having paid his dues for the past year. Of those elected to office but one had paid his dues, and but one or two of those voting had paid dues for the past year. Some offered to pay them but the Acting Secretary told them to wait until the next meeting, and then pay the Secretary.

The Secretary elected was a companion who had been granted a demit last May (1886), but it had never been issued to him for the reason that he had never called for it, nor paid the fee of \$1 to the Secretary, nor had he paid the balance of dues from October 1st to May, when the demit was granted. And, further, he had been reported to the Grand Chapter as demitted.

The questions were :

1st. Was the election legal ?

2nd. Was the Secretary elect eligible?

After giving the matter proper attention, I decided :

1st. That the election is valid.

The right to vote and hold office inseparably belong to membership in a Chapter, and no member can be deprived of those rights except through charges properly preferred and trial and conviction thereon.

2nd. That the Secretary elect was not eligible to hold office.

The granting of a dimit severs the connection of a member with his Chapter."

The Grand Chapter decided that for all purposes except opening and closing a Chapter, and conferring degrees, nine members of the Chapter are necessary to form a quorum. In the excepted cases, nine Royal Arch Masons are sufficient.

The division into districts was deferred.

The report on correspondence is by Comp. Lawrence N. Greenleaf, and notices our proceedings for 1887.

M. E. Comp. Ernest L. N. Foster, (Georgetown,) G.H.P.

R. E. Comp. Ed. C. Parmelee, (Pueblo), G. S.

CONNECTICUT.

Eighty-ninth annual convocation, New Haven, May 10th, 1887.

M. E. Comp. James McCormick, G.H.P.

His address gives an account of the meeting of the General Grand Chapter and reports peace and harmony among the Chapters in his jurisdiction.

The following was adopted :

"WHEREAS, At a special communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Connecticut, held at Hartford, on the 20th day of April last, the Charter of Hiram Lodge, No. 1, of New Haven, was revoked, and the members of the fraternity in this jurisdiction were forbidden to hold any Masonic intercourse with the members of said Hiram Lodge until they should have declared their allegiance to the Grand Lodge, and promised obedience thereto, therefore.

Resolved, That all Royal Arch Masons in this jurisdiction are hereby forbidden to hold any masonic intercourse with any member of the late Hiram Lodge, No. 1, until he shall have complied with the terms of the resolution of the Grand Lodge aforesaid."

The proceedings are brief and call for no special comment. There was a good attendance. All the Chapters had made their returns and paid their dues.

Canada for 1886 receives due notice at the hands of Comp. John H. Barlow in his report on correspondence.

M. E. Comp. Reuben H. Tucker, (Ansonia), G.H.P.

R. E. Comp. Joseph K. Wheeler, (Hartford), G. S.

DAKOTA.

Third Annual convocation, Huron, June 13th, 1887.

M. E. Comp. Peter Picton, G.H.P.

They have a very good regulation which forbids the granting of a dispensation to organize a Chapter within thirty miles of another.

The Grand High refused permission to a Chapter to join in a celebration of the advent of a first passenger train to the Black Hills, and on this subject he has the following very sensible remarks :

"I am satisfied that there are proper occasions for a public appearance of Masonic bodies. No one, I think, will deny that these occasions are being multiplied almost indefinitely, and although this occasion may be, and doubtless is, a public good yet I do not see any good and satisfactory reason why a Chapter of R. A. Masons, as such, should participate, and believing that the less public display we make the better it will be for our order, I am compelled to decline."

The Grand Secretary presented a very creditable report on correspondence.

M. E. Comp. Collins D. Pratt, (Flandreau,) G.H.P.

R. E. Comp. Thomas J. Wilder, (Casselton,) G. S.

DELAWARE.

Twentieth annual convocation, Wilmington, January 18th, 1888.

M. E. Comp. Wm. C. Baggerly, G.H.P.

Three Chapters were represented.

The address of the Grand High Priest is very brief. He recommends the recognition of the new Grand Chapter of New Brunswick.

The following report on the address was adopted :

"We have examined the address of the M. E. Grand High Priest, and would recommend its adoption, together with its recommendations. 1st. That any Subordinate Chapter in any adjoining jurisdiction may

confer the degrees of Capitular Masonry on Master Masons of this State, who reside nearer to such Chapter than to any Chapter in this State, provided the same privilege be extended to the Chapters in this State by the Laws of such adjoining jurisdictions. 2nd. That the recommendation regarding the Grand Chapter of New Brunswick be referred to a committee of three to report at our next regular Convocation."

The following report of the committee on correspondence was presented :

"Your Committee on Foreign Correspondence do most respectfully report that in consideration of this Grand Chapter consisting of just the required number to constitute a Grand Body, and there being no probability of an increase, and our funds being in such a condition that we cannot possibly afford to publish the Foreign Correspondence as it should be in accordance with other and much larger jurisdictions, we do most respectfully recommend an abolition of such a Committee. We further do recommend in relation to the recommendation of the M. E. G. H. P., at our last Annual Convocation, in relation to Grand Representatives' term of office which was referred to this Committee, that we make the term three (3) years, which has been adopted by about one-half of the Grand Chapters, and appears to be the general idea of Grand Bodies throughout our country."

The motion to adopt the first recommendation of the committee in reference to abolishing said committee was rejected after a spirited debate. The second recommendation was adopted.

M. E. Comp. Joseph A. Bond, (Wilmington,) G.H.P.

R. E. Comp. James H. Price, (Wilmington,) G. S.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

At the semi-annual convocation held on June 8th, 1887, the following resolutions were adopted :

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary be directed to notify all the Chapters of this jurisdiction that this Grand Chapter forbids the admission of any visitor from the Province of Quebec into any Chapter in the District of Columbia, unless he, previous to his examination or avouchment, presents a certificate of the Grand Secretary of Grand Chapter of Quebec that the Chapter from which the proposed visitor hails is a legally constituted Chapter, holding its warrant from said Grand Chapter.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary transmit, without delay, to the Grand Chapter of Quebec, a copy of the above resolution."

"*Resolved*, That any Subordinate Chapter in any adjoining jurisdiction may confer the degrees of Capitular Masonry upon Master Masons of the District of Columbia, who reside nearer to such Chapter than to any Chapter in this District, provided the same privilege be extended to the Chapters in this jurisdiction by the laws of such adjoining jurisdiction."

The twenty-first annual convocation was held December, 14th, 1887.

M. E. Comp. William G. Powers, G.H.P.

M. E. Comp. Noble D. Larner, General Grand High Priest, entered the Grand Chapter and was received with the Grand Honors.

In the address of the Grand High Priest we find the following paragraph on the condition of the Craft :

“It affords me much pleasure to state to you that the harmony of the Subordinate bodies of Capitular Masonry in this District during the past year has been continuous, affording opportunity for the healthy growth of our institution, and giving your Grand High Priest but little to comment upon. An unusually large amount of work has been performed, one hundred and twenty-two Companions having been exalted to the sublime degree of Royal Arch Masonry, and, so far as I have been able to ascertain from personal observation, the material has been most carefully selected, and the labors of the Chapters most carefully and beneficially performed.”

Also on foreign relations :

“I am greatly pleased to be able to report that our relations with our sister Grand Chapters are most harmonious. From the exceedingly commendatory mention of this Grand Chapter in connection with the Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter in September, 1886, as given in in the addresses of the Grand High Priests and reports of Committees of Correspondence of the numerous Grand Chapters whose proceedings I have read during the past year, I judge that the Companions of this District will be held in kind remembrance by all the visiting Companions who were present on that occasion.”

And on decisions :

“Owing to the marked intelligence of the officers of the several Subordinate Chapters, no formal requests for decisions have been submitted to me during the past year, and those informally submitted have been such in every instance as could be answered by a mere reference either to the Grand Constitution or to the By-Laws of the Chapter. Indeed in all cases the questioner had arrived at a correct solution of the matter himself, and my concurrence therein was all that was required.”

Comp. Powers made the usual grand visitations to the eight subordinate Chapters and at each visit there were eloquent and instructive addresses delivered by companions specially selected for that purpose. On the benefit of these visits, he says :

“Heretofore I was inclined to be rather skeptical as to the value of the “Grand Visitations,” and to test the question as to whether or not the large attendance on those occasions resulted from the presence of the Grand Officers

or from the fact that it was the custom to have the visitations upon the Annual Convocations of the Chapters for the election of officers, I, so far as possible, fixed upon evenings other than those. The result not only removed my doubts, never to return, but surprised and gratified me beyond measure. In some instances the attendance was so large as to necessitate the holding of the Convocation in another room than the Chapter Chamber and in every instance the room in which the Convocation was held was crowded to its outmost capacity.

The practice, inaugurated recently by the several Chapters, of serving simple refreshments at the convocation upon which the Royal Arch degree was conferred, and inviting the officers and members of sister Chapters to visit them on such occasions, has been continued with the most beneficial results. I feel entirely safe in asserting that at no time in the history of this Grand Chapter has there existed such a degree of goodfellowship and personal intimacy among the Companions as now exists, and I attribute it mainly to the practice mentioned."

The Grand Chapter of New Brunswick was recognized,

Our Past Grand Z., M. E. Comp. Thomas Sargant, and Comp. Samuel Davidson deserve hearty commendation for their very appropriate recognition of the kindness bestowed on the Canadian visitors at Washington, and their action is thus recorded :

"Companion Mathew Trimble stated that during the recent session of the General Grand Chapter of the United States in this city, there were present M. E. Comp. Thomas Sargant, Grand Z., and Comp. Samuel Davidson, of the jurisdiction of Toronto, who, in token of their appreciation of the courtesies extended to them by the Grand Chapter on that occasion, presented to this grand body a souvenir, of which the following is a description, and, on his motion, the Grand Secretary was directed to transmit a vote of thanks to the Companions for the gift.

DESCRIPTION.

A triangular stone derrick, with a windlass between two of the legs, and supplied with double blocks and tackle hanging from the clevis. Suspended by a "lewis" to the lower block is a White Marble Cube, representing the "Stone of Foundation," measuring four inches on each side, having the following engravings thereon, viz: On the top, the circle and parallel lines. On the first side, the 47th problem of Euclid. On the second side, a stonecutter's mallet and chisel, parted by the twenty-four inch gage, diagonal as a bend sinister. On the third side, the plumb, level and square, placed one over the other, viz: plumb inclined from the right above to the left, and covered by the level erect, which is itself covered by a square inclined from the left above to the right. On the fourth side is a skerrit, on which is a pair of compasses displayed erect."

The report on correspondence is by Comp. W. R. Singleton. In his notice of our proceedings for 1887 he has the following remarks :

"The report on Foreign Correspondence is by Comp. Henry Robertson, who is also Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada ; and it was the great pleasure of our Companions here at the Triennial Convocation to greet him as a distinguished visitor, as also the Grand Representative of our Grand Lodge.

Personally, the present writer had the gratification of being selected to accompany him with two other visitors in the famous ride around our City and suburbs, during which time we had the opportunity of exchanging sentiments upon the differences in our rituals and other matters, much to the benefit of the writer.

He devotes much space to the transaction of the General Grand Chapter, particularly that part referring to the difficulties existing between the Grand Chapter of Quebec and the Grand Mark Lodge of England. He does not concur altogether with the decision of that body, and says:

"On the adoption of the majority report, the first resolution, withdrawing recognition, was carried, and the other three resolutions were rejected."

Note.—These three resolutions were, 2nd, not to recognize any persons claiming to have received the Mark Degree in any organization holding under the Grand Mark Lodge ; 3, the Chapters in the United States permitted to receive petitions *de novo* for the degrees from persons covered by preceding resolution ; 4, that whenever the Grand Chapter of Quebec is in undisputed possession of the entire territory, and so conceded by the Grand Mark of the Lodge of England, the 2nd and 3rd resolutions shall become inoperative, &c.

He says:

"This action of the General Grand Chapter appears to us to be self-contradictory. They withdraw the recognition previously accorded to the Grand Mark Lodge and refuse to adopt a resolution forbidding their subordinates to admit members of that Grand Mark Lodge. * * *

It may be said that the logical effect of the resolution withdrawing recognition, is to shut the doors of all the Chapters upon the members of that body, and that there is, therefore, no necessity for a resolution forbidding the Chapters to admit such members. If this is the position taken by the majority of G. G. C., we can understand it, but we cannot account for the rejection of the 2nd resolution on any other sensible ground.

We have made this extract for the purpose of calling especial attention of all of our correspondents to the conclusion arrived at by Comp. Robertson, and that in every jurisdiction the rule evidently intended to be enforced shall be duly observed by every Chapter into which a Mark Master of the obedience of a Mark Lodge under the Grand Mark Lodge of England shall seek to enter as a visitor, or an applicant for degrees above that.

We have heretofore clearly expressed our views as to the great mistake originally made by the General Grand Chapter, and also the State Grand Chapters, in having entered into official relations with a body having only one degree, and that the lowest in our curriculum, and the ritual of which differed so much that upon examination a visitor could scarcely be admitted; also having Lodges working a degree unknown to our Chapters, viz., Royal Ark Mariner.

What the General Grand Chapter did at its last convocation was, in

our estimation, very proper—simply to withdraw its original “recognition,” and by this act to say to all its subordinates and the Grand Chapters of the States and Territories: “Having refused to recognize the Grand Mark Lodge of England, *you* cannot recognize any member hailing from its obedience, or admit them as visitors.” No legislation was required for that.

Comp. Robertson, you were correct in your supposition.

We need make no apology for transcribing in full Comp. Singleton’s very forcible argument against the allowance of unsupported objections to the advancement of a candidate. We have heretofore taken somewhat the same ground and are glad to have our views so well endorsed by such competent authority. The argument occurs in his review of the report of Comp. Parish of Iowa :

“Referring to our amendment to the constitution requiring a formal statement of ‘objections’ to the advancement of an applicant *after* he should have received one degree, he says :

‘We cannot, however, understand what status has been attained by a candidate who may have received one, or even three, degrees of the Chapter, that should entitle him to rights and privileges equal to a Royal Arch Mason, whereby the latter’s prerogative as such is abridged,’ &c.

To this we reply that Comp. Parish has assumed premises which are false in themselves. A Royal Arch Mason, member of a Chapter, has no more prerogatives than does a Mark Master Mason who has been elected to receive all the degrees of the Chapter. The analogy between an applicant for Masonry and an applicant for the degrees of the Chapter does not exist.

According to the old regulations, no one could be admitted to or made a member of a *Lodge* without the unanimous consent of all the members of that Lodge. The applicant, as a profane, had no Masonic rights whatever. So soon, however, as he becomes a Mason, he becomes possessed of every prerogative as such that every Mason has, even to those of the highest offices belonging to the craft. He is a Mason *emphatically*. Degrees are of modern origin entirely. The Fellow-Craft was added, and Entered Apprentices were present when an Apprentice was *crafted*. He only who had been elected to preside became a MASTER.

Now in England the Royal Arch Degree is the completion of the Master’s part. When the essential mysteries of the Master’s part were dissevered from that *part* and a distinct degree manufactured, it was made a prerequisite that only those who presided over an actual Lodge could receive the Royal Arch Degree.

In time, Laurence Dermott, in his Lodges of the Ancients, adopted the method of *election* as now practiced, and the R. A. Degree was conferred upon such Past Masters.

Webb, in 1796, after he had received all the degrees of the A. A. Rite of Perfection to the last or 25°, S. P. R. S., took in hand the very *disjecta membra* of the various rites of Blue Lodge, Chapter and Encampment

scattered over the New England and Middle States, and prepared rituals for each of these divisions. Prior to that time the Mark Degree was found isolated in Mark Lodges. The Past Master's Degree was almost unknown in many places, and we do not know that it was ever conferred in any Chapter until Webb placed it as the fifth degree; and in its curriculum the M. E. Master's Degree is attributed to him as an original degree. We think that when he started his system the 'Excellent Super Excellent Royal Arch Degree,' was so called in New England and in the District of Columbia *Encampment* of 1794. He separated this degree of 'Excellent' and also the 'Super Excellent' from the Royal Arch, and modified the Excellent and called it 'Most Excellent.' The Super Excellent went *adrift* until it was *caught* in more recent times and tied on to the Council Degrees (of which more anon).

Webb being familiar with the English R. A. as worked by the English Lodges, the Irish Royal Arch and the Royal Arch of Enoch, which he had received in Albany, made the present American Royal Arch, which differs from the others most in particulars, but more essentially in the arrangement of the Council officers, viz., placing the High Priest as the first officer,

It has been our high privilege to become familiar with *all* the Royal Arch Degrees which have been worked since the introduction into England of the Arch of Enoch by Chevalier Ramsay, in about 1740. We have the ritual of the oldest known Royal Arch, the ritual of the English R. A., as practiced by authority now in English Lodges and Chapters.

Now, we ask, is any Mason, who has received the Third Degree only, a complete Master Mason? Is he not ignorant of those 'essentials' which should constitute him a Master Mason? And was he not informed when he received the Third Degree of the loss of the essentials of that degree?

Here, now, is the *gravamen* as to objections being made to the advancement of a postulant at *any time after* he shall have become *initiated* into our institution. Acting upon this fundamental principle, the Masons—true Masons—of the District of Columbia, in all the various branches thereof, having recognized an Entered Apprentice as a Mason entitled to be received as such, do not intend that he shall be prevented from advancing towards that point where he can obtain *that* which he at his first admission declared to be 'what he most desired'—'Light,' the symbol of 'truth,' 'divine truth,' which can be properly communicated to him, in a mysterious manner only by a High Priest, according to the Webb system, and improperly by any other person. The 'truth' is therein embodied, ready to be ascertained by all those who earnestly desire to seek it, and who by their *zeal, assiduity* and *fidelity* will certainly find it. Having by certain ceremonial observances demonstrated *three* several times their having *humbled themselves*, they are entitled to be *exalted*. Such exaltation being in the reception of the * *

*. To attain to this exaltation every postulant should be proved by the Grand Overseer's square.

In the Mark Degree we are clearly taught that no stone could be rejected by any *one* overseer—it required the inspection of *three*.

Does any one suppose that this ceremony is anything other than an allegory? How absurd the whole ceremony would be as a realism! Some of the stones of the temple were several feet long, wide and thick; who could have presented them in the manner represented, and why should *three* distinct applications of a square be made when one would be sufficient?

No! it is to teach us that in examining material for our temple the objections of one inspector is not sufficient; it must be rejected by *all*, and a due examination of its want of conformity to our rules must be made.

As an act of *justice*—a cardinal virtue—whenever any Mason is desirous of advancing in Masonic knowledge, and has been unanimously elected, he should not be estopped, unless he and the body into which he is to enter know the reason why; and those who object to this act of *justice* have our commiseration, nothing less.

If the party be unworthy, after a proper investigation, *all* parties must be satisfied. Stop a good man, without a known reason, and all of his friends will forever be dissatisfied.

In our practice here under this rule we find it to act admirably well. When a party finds his single objection overruled, one person only is disgruntled, and, as it is invariably the case, he is just such a person as should never have himself been made a Mason, for he lacks that quality most essential to a Masonic character—Charity."

M. Comp. Will A. Short, (720 13th St. N. W. Washington,) G.H.P.

R. E. Comp. L. G. Stephens, (Masonic Temple, Washington,) G. S.

ENGLAND.

GRAND MARK LODGE.

During the six months ending 30th September, 1886, there were issued 570 Mark certificates, total number registered, 22,227. Warrants were granted for three new Lodges, in Herts, Jamaica and Burmah. Royal Ark Mariners certificates, 118; total number registered, 2076. New Lodges in London and Bengal.

The eighteenth annual festival in aid of the Mark Benevolent Fund realized about \$7,500.

Among the re-appointments made for a further term of three years we notice the name of the Hon. William Badgley for Quebec.

During the six months ending 31st March, 1887, there were issued 566 Mark certificates, total number registered, 22,793. Warrants were granted for ten new Lodges.

The invested funds amount to \$39,000.

On the Quebec matter, the following paragraph appears in the report of the General Board:

“The General Grand Chapter of the United States of America, acting in support of the unconstitutional pretensions of the Grand Chapter of Quebec, have withdrawn their recognition of this Grand Lodge. It is satisfactory to find that a minority of 65 against 99 refused to concur in this attack on ancient landmarks. Should, however, this action of the General Grand Chapter be found to involve any practical injury to English Mark Masters in the United States, which it is earnestly hoped may not be the case, this Grand Lodge will be reluctantly compelled to give them its support in working the Mark Degree.”

On this, the following discussion and action took place :

“Bro. W. J. Hugham, P. G. W., Grand Representative of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, objected to the paragraph with regard to the General Grand Chapter of the United States, and regretted to find in it the concluding sentence—‘Should, however, this action of the General Grand Chapter be found to involve any practical injury to English Mark Masters in the United States, which it is earnestly hoped may not be the case, this Grand Lodge will be reluctantly compelled to give them its support in working the Mark Degree.’ He submitted that if those words meant anything, they meant a threat to issue warrants for the working of Mark Masonry in the United States, and he was very sorry to read such in the report, because if they were adopted by this Grand Lodge they would widen instead of heal the breach which existed between the American brethren and the Mark Masons of this country. He had for many years taken a very deep interest in Mark Masonry of the United States, with respect to English brethren visiting Mark Lodges and Chapters there and becoming joining members, and had given a very careful study to the whole question. He had heard it said that in considering the matter of the difficulties between the Grand Chapter of Quebec and the Mark Grand Lodge of England, but he begged to differ from that view. With respect to the Grand Lodge of England, he considered that body was wholly right, whereas the Grand Lodge of Quebec was wholly in the wrong, but with regard to the Grand Chapter of Quebec and the Mark Grand Lodge of England, his opinion was that *both were in the wrong*, and that being the case, the members of the Grand Mark Lodge of England should be very careful how they proceeded. There were some 38 Grand Chapters and 124,000 Mark Masons who were Royal Arch Masons, under the General Grand Chapter of U. S. A. They would be virtually cut off from all those bodies by passing this portion of the report. It was true there were three Grand Chapters not connected with the United States G. G. Chapter, one being Pennsylvania with which he was connected and had offered its good offices in bringing about a better feeling between the two bodies, but it seemed to him that if Grand Mark Lodge of England used this threat they would only do so in order to carry it out, hence such a threat at the present stage of the proceedings would do very much harm instead of doing good. He was very sorry that M. W. Bro. Cannon Portal was not present, as he was so well informed on the subject. He could not help thinking that if they carefully considered the whole question, they would see that by virtually threatening the United States Grand Chapters they entirely cut themselves off from association with them. With respect to the action of the Grand Lodge of England, let them bear in mind that though edicts of non-intercourse had been issued against it, that Grand Lodge had not threatened to issue warrants in the United States, and he did not suppose it ever would. He thought it was outside the province of Grand Mark Lodge to

do so, and he hoped for the sake of the brethren who were Mark Masons in this country who desired to visit Lodges and Chapters in the United States, that the words he had read would be obliterated from the report. He did not propose any amendment, but he put it to the Vice-President of the General Board, whether he did not think under the circumstances, for the sake of good feeling between the Mark Masons of England and the Royal Arch Masons of the United States the sentence had better be omitted. Even if the matter were postponed till the December meeting it would be better than to deal with it now, but he believed it would be a mistake to adopt that clause at any time, under any circumstances.

Bro. Major Woodall wished to say a few words as one who had been a visitor at lodges in Pennsylvania, and in support of Bro. Hughan's remarks. Speaking from experience of the brethren in the United States he felt sure they would be unwilling there should be any difference of opinion. They might adopt the somewhat Fabian policy of waiting for the turn of events, and he believed if they did that, matters would be smoothed over. He was quite conversant with the question between the Grand Lodge of Quebec and the Grand Lodge of England, but he must say he thought time would get over the difficulty. He hoped they would not take a different position with regard to their brethren of the United States.

Bro. Binckes, G. S., was fully conversant with Canon Portal's mind on the matter, and no one more than he (Bro. Binckes) regretted he was not present to support the paragraph in the report; but, after Bro. Hughan's forcible argument, he would venture to suggest to Grand Lodge that this last paragraph be deferred till December, when it was to be hoped Canon Portal would be with them. This would not eliminate it from the report, and it would not be adopting anything hostile to the views of the President of the Board.

A Brother suggested that the whole paragraph be left out.

Bro. W. Beach, P. G. M., thought not. It would be better to refer the matter back.

Lord Egerton of Tatton thought it would be very undesirable that they should have words in the report which would have the effect of wounding the feelings of their American brethren, and therefore, on those grounds, if not on more substantial grounds, he thought that the whole paragraph had better be deferred. Before the next meeting of Grand Lodge the question would be fully gone into, and meanwhile the forcible words used would not in any way be carried into effect. If it was the pleasure of Grand Lodge, he would suggest that the whole of the paragraph be referred back to the General Board.

This was agreed to, and the report, as amended by the omission of the paragraph commencing "The General Grand Chapter of the United States" down to "in working the Mark Degree," was adopted.

FLORIDA.

Forty-first annual convocation, Jacksonville, January 17th, 1887.

M. E. Comp. Angus Paterson, G.H.P.

He reports two new chapters and also the following decisions ;

“To Eureka R. A. Chapter, No. 7. that a M. M. Lodge required eight, a P. M. Lodge three, and a M. E. M. Lodge two, but after the R. A. Chapter is closed, that neither of them could be opened with a less number than would be required to open a Chapter, but with the required number present, they might open either of the Lodges without first opening the R. A. Degree, and all business must be transacted when opened on the R. A.

2nd. Ruling to same Chapter at the same time. That a Mason in good standing in another jurisdiction, residing in this jurisdiction, could receive the Chapter Degrees without obtaining a dimit from the Lodge to which he belongs ; that he might become a member of the nearest Chapter to his residence, and continue to be a member of a Lodge in another jurisdiction.”

That the High Priest had authority to call one of the Lodges, to open and confer the degrees, without first opening on the R. A. Degree, provided there were present a number sufficient to open the Chapter, and that all business must be transacted in the R. A. Degree.”

“Companion Charles E. Bell, a member of the Grand R. A. Chapter of England, also a member of the Grand Lodge of Mark Masters, of England, etc. The three Lodge degrees are not conferred in the Grand R. A. Chapter, England, as they are in this country, and Companion Bell having applied to a Chapter in this jurisdiction for the degrees, in order that he might become a regular R. A. M., of our jurisdiction, and obtained them at a time when the Grand R. A. Chapter of Florida was on amicable relations with the R. A. C. and the G. L. of M. M. of England, since that time recognition of the Grand Lodge of Mark Masters of England, has been withdrawn. Companion Bell desires to affiliate with a Chapter in this jurisdiction. Held: That he has the right to affiliate with any Chapter in this jurisdiction without any reference to the Grand Lodge of Mark Masters of England, and the action of withdrawal of fraternal relations does not effect him, as he had been healed before such withdrawal.”

On motion of Comp. D. C. Dawkins, a committee of three was appointed to co-operate with any committee of the Grand Lodge with a view to secure the erection of a Masonic Temple.

It was also resolved that the regulations of the Grand Chapter should be revised, harmonized and systematized.

M. E. Comp. Angus Paterson, (Madison,) G.H.P.

R. E. Comp. Dewitt C. Dawkins, (Jacksonville,) G. S.

Forty-second annual convocation, Jacksonville, January 17th, 1888.

M. E. Comp. Angus Paterson, G.H.P.

The Grand High Priest delivered a brief address. He had been absent for three months in the old country. He reports that several new Chapters were formed during the year. Others have been revived and the outlook is encouraging.

The following resolution was introduced but was not approved by the Grand Chapter :

“*Resolved*, That the commissions of all present representatives of the Grand Chapter of Florida to other Grand Chapters shall terminate on the 24th of June, 1889, and that the terms of office of such representatives shall thereafter be three years, and that no Companion shall represent more than one Grand Chapter in the Grand Chapter of Florida.”

The following appears in the report of the Grand Secretary:

“A very pretty little incident is worth recording. A Brother Mason handed us a beautiful gold charm, picked up in the streets of Jacksonville, having the mark of a Mark Master Mason, with *Allen B. Strong* and *Ancient Chapter No. 1* inscribed thereon. Failing to find an owner, and finding that *Ancient Chapter No. 1* was located in the city of New York, and perhaps the oldest R. A. Chapter on the Continent, I entered into correspondence with said Chapter, and found that Allen B. Strong dimitted from said Chapter in 1808. By request of said Chapter I sent it the said charm, where it is appreciated in a large collection of relics and curiosities carefully preserved. My correspondence was with the High Priest of said Chapter, M. E. Companion Edward P. Wilder, who extends a cordial invitation to the Companions of this Grand Chapter to visit his Chapter at any convenient season, with the assurance that they may see the most antique Royal Arch work in existence, and beautiful as old.”

The constitution was amended so as to require that no charter should be issued to a new Chapter until it shall have given proof of its skill, by labor under dispensation for at least three months :

M. E. Comp. Marcus Endel, (Gainesville,) G.H.P.

R. E. Comp. Dewitt C. Dawkins, (Jacksonville,) G. S.

ILLINOIS.

Thirty-eighth annual convocation, Chicago, October 27th, 1887.

The address of the Grand High Priest, M. E. Comp. George W. Curtiss, opens as follows :

“During the Capitular year now nearing its close, the relations of this Grand Chapter with other Grand Bodies with whom we have been in accord have remained uninterrupted ; and within our own borders have peace and harmony prevailed. While some differences have arisen between Companions of our subordinate Chapters, they have not been unusual, and I am happy to state that brotherly love, forbearance and a desire for the welfare of the Craft, have brought an adjustment of the difficulties honorable to the Companions and the fraternity.”

He reports one new Chapter. Among the newly com-

missioned representatives, we notice the name of R. E. Comp William Forbes, re-appointed.

Their foreign relations have been characterized by perfect harmony and no questions of vexed jurisdictional rights were presented.

The following important decisions are reported :

"A non-affiliated Royal Arch Mason, in good standing, can petition any Chapter for membership.

No one can alter or change a Mark Master's mark when properly chosen and recorded as such in the lodge book of marks ; if erased or changed on the books, such action being illegal does not thereby alter or change the mark, which remains as originally selected and recorded ; and the Secretary of the Chapter should cause its restoration upon the book. It is not necessary for a Mark Master to engrave with his own hand, his chosen mark upon the lodge book of marks ; but it may be done by another with his approval.

Masonic law, usage and policy require that a High Priest elect, *when not his own successor*, should be installed prior to the remaining officers of the Chapter."

On their Masonic Orphans Home, Comp. Curtiss says :

"As you are no doubt aware, there has been located in the City of Chicago, a home for the orphan children of deceased brothers. The management of this great charity and benefaction is in the hands of some of our best known and highly respected companions. Its object is one which appeals strongly to the best impulses of our better nature ; to foster and encourage such an institution should be a duty and a pleasure. In order to carry out the grand objects for which it has been organized, substantial charity is necessary. Each one of us can do something. If every member of this Grand Chapter would contribute to this worthy charity the per diem received for one day's attendance, a fund would be created which would furnish support and education to some of the parentless children of deceased brethren, and I am sure the consciousness that we have brought happiness to the little wanderers, given them an education with which to begin the battle of life, and perhaps saved them from starvation, would amply compensate us for the trivial outlay. I commend this subject to your most favorable consideration."

A relic was presented to the Grand Chapter by Comp. W. H. Chaffee, in the shape of a copy of the by-laws of Libanus Lodge, No. 29, located at Edwardsville, Ill., in the year 1823.

New Brunswick was recognized.

A memorial to the lamented Gurney contains the following:

"Pre-eminently first to us in this Grand Chapter stands the name of

THEODORE TUTHILL GURNEY.

But here our pen shrinks from the task before us, for who can add one tribute of merit or of honor, of love and affection, that abler minds than ours have not already placed on the altars of fraternal remembrance, or hung in amaranthine wreaths around his memory. And yet were this Grand Chapter to decline to add its tribute of recognition to his memory and worth because of the wealth of treasure already given, it were base ingratitude indeed.

Omitting, as a needless repetition, the details of personal and masonic life, so familiar to all the masonic readers in this Grand Chapter, we will only try to gleam along the wayside of those who have reaped before us in this field of thought, for points in his life and character of value to us as Royal Arch Masons, who for the second time in many years will miss the silvered head, the warm fraternal hand, the voice which inspired us all with new zeal and hope and courage in our masonic life, and stood like a wall of adamant against threatened innovations, or the lowering, in the least degree, the high standard of masonic excellence already established. For over thirty years Companion Gurney has been a potent force in the domain of Masonry in Illinois.

Grand and constituent bodies in Blue Lodge, Chapter, Council, Commandry and Consistory, have asked and received from him his best efforts, his choicest thoughts, his untiring labors.

What his hand found to do was always done to the best of his ability. But it was confined to no geographical or municipal boundries. The work he performed for masonry was for it in its universality. And it was no perfunctory duty he discharged. The echoes of his voice came back to us in the reports of every Grand Jurisdiction through the length and breadth of the Masonic world. And tears of genuine grief from distant Masonic homes mingle with ours around his bier.

Companion Gurney was a man above the ordinary acceptance of that term.

The keynote of his life was above the selfish routine of the great majority of human lives. Controlled and animated by the influence of a pure and earnest christian life, he found in the tenets of masonry a congenial helpmate, and with these he sought to make his daily life a useful and beneficent one, the inspiration of a grand and noble manhood.

And this is true in every sphere of life in which he moved. In the great crucible of official trust, in the more secluded retreats of Masonry, in the friendship and fellowship of congenial friends, in the sacred precincts of his home, he was a man to be trusted, honored and loved.

In 1879 this imperial city, where he dwelt, placed the care of her financial interests in his hand, and when, after years of service, he laid it down at the bidding of a higher power, so perfect was this record and so clean his hands, that when his successor was appointed it was exacted that he should follow in the footsteps of his predecessor.

Masonry bestowed upon him many of her choicest gifts, and in return he honored Masonry by the results of his official trusts; and for years to come, the craft of Illinois especially, will feel the impress of his Masonic life and labors.

As a Masonic jurist he was of acknowledged pre-eminence, and his

opinions were sought and respected in other jurisdictions than our own. But the work in which he will long be remembered by his fraters in this state, and from which he will be greatly missed in other jurisdictions, was his annual reports as Committee on Masonic Correspondence, not only in this Grand Chapter, but those of the Grand Lodge and Commandery. Of these it has been well said : ' His reports were distinguished by broad, general, as well as technical scholarship ; by clear and common sense views of law, usage and Masonic relation ; by an incisive impatience with shams ; by unfailing courtesy and veins of kindly humor which made him a great favorite with his brother reviewers.' Companion Gurney has left behind him a record of which Masonry in Illinois may well be proud, and hold up to succeeding generations as worthy of imitation.

Such lives never die. Although like the Centuary Plant, they may bloom only once in a generation, their beauty and grandeur will make them immortal.

Our representative, E. Comp. Archibald McLellan, Grand Steward, who is a brother of our esteemed Grand Scribe E., was present and took part in the proceedings.

The Grand Secretary reported

"That the electrotype plates of the History of the Black Hawk War, which for sixteen years had been supposed to be lost, had been found, and that they were now deposited in the vaults of the Safety Deposit Co. with other valuable property of this Grand Chapter."

The following resolutions were adopted :

"Resolved. That each Subordinate Chapter in this Grand Jurisdiction forthwith provide itself with a "Book of Marks" which shall be in the Lodge whenever the Mark Master Degree is conferred, that its use be explained to every candidate upon his advancement and the request made that he chose a "Mark" and record the same therein, either then, or previous to receiving the Royal Arch Degree.

Resolved, That all Royal Arch Masons members of Chapters in this Jurisdiction, who have not already adopted and recorded "Marks" be requested to do so at once."

The report on correspondence is by Comp, John M. Pearson, with whom we were most pleased to become personally acquainted at the congress of Grand Masters in Chicago. He is a vigorous writer, well informed, a hater of shams, quite able to give his reasons for all his positions, and evidently a lover of the whole fraternity. His ability will add to the prestige already attained by the Grand Chapter of Illinois. Our proceedings for 1887 receive due notice. In his review of Dakota, he has the following on public processions :

“We are glad that he is ‘satisfied that there are proper occasions for a public appearance of Masonic bodies.’

We have read old records of such appearances, and we are inclined to think that when the public are sufficiently interested in a procession to march through the streets, to commemorate any event of public importance, that Masons might as well march as a Lodge as to march as citizens. As a matter of fact, *public processions* of the *people* for any such purposes are getting rare. Trades’ processions, advertising vans and hired men have taken their place. We would like to see once more a civic procession, composed of men who marched voluntarily to testify joy or respect on any public occasion, and in such a procession we would like to march with our Lodge. Of course, in all partisan or sectarian celebrations we would be out of place.”

This is good :

“We talked, in our Grand Chapter, about the ‘indemnity bond’ business, some time since and dropped it. Here is what the committee in Michigan say about it :

‘At the last session of the Grand Chapter, M. E. Companion Blades offered the following :

That the Finance Committee be, and are hereby directed, to enquire into the feasibility of securing an indemnity bond for the Grand Treasurer, and secure such bond for the present year, if in their judgement they think best, the cost thereof to be paid by Grand Chapter.

Your committee would say that they, in connection with Grand Treasurer Noble, corresponded with agents in Chicago, New York, Detroit and Toronto, and found the plan impracticable, as the conditions were too numerous ; in fact, they wanted to be the custodians of our funds, and control how we should conduct our business. Companion Grand Treasurer Noble furnished a bond that was amply good, and so endorsed by the chairman of committee, and forwarded to M. E. Grand High Priest Striker, as you are aware.’

The Grand Chapter said, amen ! The fact is, that these corporations aim to do everything that a natural man can do, except to die. Our own legislature, last winter, passed a bill giving them the right to administer on our estates, and maybe they will next want to say when we must die, so as to prevent stagnation in their business. No, no, choose a good and *capable* man for treasurer, and, personally, we would prefer not to have a bond, and we have had experience of both plans. A proposition was made to reduce the *per capita* tax on members, and laid over under the rules until next year. ‘Our Hugh’ made a few remarks on installation of officers, that the Grand Secretary says, ‘Everything done was so kind and with such deep feeling that all were impressed, particularly the officers to whom the kind words were addressed.’

We would like to have been there. Our installations are, sometimes, gastly. All the work has been done, and every one in a hurry ‘to go.’ Orders for mileage and *per diem* are in demand, and our worthy Treasurer is paying them in another room, and only the installing officers and those to be installed are in sight.

Some quiet old men, like the writer, linger around the back seats,

perhaps only for the chance of kneeling once more in closing around the altar, in doubt if ever they may thus meet their companions again. It is shocking. If 'Our Hugh' will come over (and he has come before) and install and talk to our officers, we'll try and reform."

On the combination of work and pleasure-seeking at the meetings of the General Grand Bodies, he says :

"It is true that "generous hospitality" hinders the work of these bodies. It reminds us of a remark made by our friend, the late Dr. Warder, of Ohio while attending the meeting of the American Pomological Society in St. Louis some years since. Invited to ride, he answered, in his pleasant way, that he "could ride at home;" of the theatre, "I can go there in Cincinnati, but I can't see these men, who have come from Nova Scotia and from California, and all the States to talk about fruit and show fruit and compare experience;" invited to a banquet he said, "will there be any talking? if so, I want to go, but if not, let's go together and talk ourselves."

And on jurisdiction :

"We make a note of this order to say that we have no *town jurisdiction*, nor, since the formation of our Grand Bodies, has there been any "unoccupied territory" in this state. The "air line" rule answers very well and we have even pushed it so far to as measure distance from lodge halls.

Personally, we are no great sticklers for jurisdiction of subordinate bodies, and we do not believe that the Grand Chapter ever *donates* to a subordinate or definite territory to make money out of, and we quite agree with the Grand Chapter of Connecticut, when they said last year, in effect, that the claim of fees, or part thereof, should never be made a condition of waiver of jurisdiction. However, of late years, the rule hasn't troubled us much. Applications for waiver are generally granted, unless there be objections to the person that would prevent his admission at home, in which case, of course, they should not be granted."

We are compelled to stop our extracts from this very excellent and readable report, but not from want of material or inclination.

M. E. Comp. Philander W. Barclay, (Cairo,) G.H.P.

R. E. Comp. Gil. W. Barnard, (Chicago,) G. S.

INDIANA.

Forty second annual convocation, Indianapolis, October 19th, 1887.

M. E. Comp. Christian Fetta, G.H.P.

He organized one new Chapter.

The new Grand Chapter of New Brunswick was recognized,

The Grand Chapter restored Comp. B. F. Dawson, P. G

H. P., who was expelled at the last meeting, on good cause being shown for the restoration.

The report on correspondence is by Comp. Thomas B. Long, and it contains a good notice of the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Canada for 1887.

On the undue solicitation of candidates, he has the following excellent and vigorous remarks :

“If there is anything that deserves condemnation, with all the force of language, it is the system of solicitation so unfortunately prevalent throughout the land. It is wrong whenever it occurs, if done for the mere purpose of increasing membership through either rivalry or greed; and, as connected with the symbolic degrees, it is a flagrant violation of the most sacred of the fundamental principles of Masonry. It is high time that something serious were done to put an end to it. It is destroying a mortal sentiment, because at almost every step it is said by, or for the candidate, that his course is entirely voluntary, that everything so far as he is concerned, is done by him freely and without any inducements or incentives from any other source. The great Masonic virtue of Truth is weakened by slow and almost imperceptible degrees, when he, or any one for him, says “yes,” when his truthful answer should be “no;” and what is a solemn principle is in danger of becoming a meaningless form, and what should ever be a sacred truth is likely to become a flippant falsehood.

Let all Masonic presiding officers, Grand and subordinate, and all worthy Masons, in every jurisdiction and on every available occasion, raise their voices against the pernicious practice, before the Masonic mind shall become corrupted to such an extent that the evil can no longer be remedied.”

M. E. Comp. Calvin W. Prather, (Jeffersonville,) G.H.P.

R. E. Comp. John M. Bramwell, (Indianapolis,) G. S.

IOWA.

These proceedings are embellished with a fine steel-engraved portrait of Comp. Thos. R. Ercanbrack, G.H.P., and a well executed masonic map of the State, showing the locality of all the Chapters.

Thirty-fourth annual convocation, Oskaloosa, October 4th, 1887.

Two new Chapters were organized during the year.

The Grand Secretary, Comp. John C. Parish, had become partially disabled by paralysis, and Comp. Alf. Wingate was appointed Deputy Grand Secretary.

The growth of Royal Arch Masonry in this State has been fully commensurate with the increase of population.

The following resolutions were adopted :

Resolved, That the tellers be instructed to cast the vote of the Grand Chapter of the State of Iowa for Companion John C. Parish as Emeritus Grand Secretary, and that he be borne upon the official roster as such.

Resolved, That the salary for the Emeritus Grand Secretary aforesaid shall be \$600.00 per annum.

Resolved, That the facts hereinbefore stated be officially communicated to Companion Parish, at the same time conveying to our beloved companion the heartfelt sympathy of all Royal Arch Masons of the jurisdiction."

The installation of officers was held in public. From the eloquent address delivered on this occasion by the Grand Orator, Comp. Lucien C. Blanchard, we make the following extract :

"It is quite true that hospitality to strangers is not a conspicuous merit of the order ; while it is equally true that arrogance and bigotry are sometimes born of seclusion. While I attempt no defense of secret societies, I here take the liberty, at the risk of being disciplined, to divulge a secret—an important one—that Masonry is not, in a proper sense, a secret society. Its general aims and purposes are as well known as are those of the orthodox churches. True, its methods are its own, but these are merely aids to accomplish well-known results—to make its votaries wiser, better, and consequently happier. The picket guarding the outposts of the army has a secret, a countersign, and he who attempts to pass the lines without this secret does so at the peril of his life. Is an army a secret society because secret methods are used ? To accomplish objects which all must concede are praiseworthy, secret methods are justifiable, and only justifiable because more efficient. These produce harmony, union, and strength. An organized army are more efficient than a mob. Individual efforts accomplish little, from lack of opportunity, system, and power.

The suspicion born of ignorance, envy born of malice, may conjure up all conceivable forms of iniquity and charge them to the doors of Masonry, still it falters not in its noble work. We know that it often lifts the poor from the hardships with which and inconstant fortune has burdened them ; that it softens the rigors of adversity ; ministers daily to the sick and dying, and not unfrequently feeds the hungry and clothes the naked. Often, too, yet not so frequently, I fear, as its obligations require it, cares for the widow and the fatherless.

That bad men sometimes gain admission, must be conceded ; while many good men are not Masons. But even those who are not always true to their vows are often restrained and reformed by other influences than the fear of law. As the rough ashlar is transformed by the skilful hand of labor from a shapeless mass of granite to the polished stone which becomes the head of the corner, so many a rough ashlar who has found his way into the temple has been chiseled and moulded by the implements of speculative Masonry until a wayward career has been checked and turned to habits of industry and usefulness.

When we study the character of many of those who have made war on Masonry, we are almost ready to say that we love Masonry for the enemies it has made. These zealous reformers have even organized a secret society whose purpose it is to destroy secret societies. Some have even abandoned useful callings to carry on a crusade against the order; but the sun and moon have kept their courses, generations have come and gone, and Masonry still lives to continue its errand of mercy, while each recurring year finds its numbers largely augmented. Its columns were never more compact and united, and its beneficent influences were never more widely recognized than at the present time.

Intelligent people are slow to believe that an order which has embraced such men as Washington, Garfield, and many of our prominent statesmen and eminent divines can be the closely-knit band of conspirators which certain self-styled reformers have painted them.

With people blind by bigotry and fanaticism we cannot argue. Proof cannot demonstrate. Disbelief in any good in Masonry is a special habit with them. The logic of events teaches them to reject accepted truths and to accept improbable ones. What others know as impossible, they accept probable. Reason never convinces such people. Argument with them is a lever without fulcrum. Try to snow-ball the man in the moon, to level the Rocky Mountains, to chain the Mississippi in its onward course to the sea, but never try to reason with fanatics—better to spend your time counting the stars of heaven or the sands of earth. Morbid curiosity excites a suspicion in such people which they accept as proof. Unused to habits of industry or benevolence, they judge other natures by their own. Such people consume, but do not create; like bears on the market, they pull down, but never lift up. They prefer to be vandals, rather than architects.

Were our doors thrown open to such people, no good could be accomplished. Such a current would corrupt the whole stream, as the dark-blue waters of the River Rhine are discolored and polluted by the muddy Arve. That evil communications corrupt good manners is no less a truism than that he who associates with the vicious and low descends to their level. No society can be prosperous which does not select its own members with a regard to their qualifications and fitness. To admit all persons to a society merely because it is useful would be what lawyers call *fe-lo de-se*—self-destruction. Such a society would be without cohesion; with no fraternal ties, no bond of union, no power of strength. A society will be judged by the character of its members, and it must itself determine who these shall be."

Comp. Clark Varnum has an excellent report on correspondence, in which our proceedings for 1887 are duly noticed. In his review of Michigan, we find the following remarks on officers' bonds:

"The committee appointed by the Grand Chapter in 1886 to inquire into the feasibility of that body procuring an indemnity bond for its Grand Treasurer reported that they found the plan impracticable, and their report was adopted.

In our opinion it is not only impracticable, but is also a subject which should never be seriously considered by any Masonic body. For a Masonic organization to go into this 'indemnity bond' business, is to insult the com-

panion elected custodian of its funds and the companions who have nominated him, and who are willing to sign a bond with him if a bond be necessary.

Not only that, but such action is competent evidence that the Masons of Michigan distrusted each other, and that they lacked confidence in Masonic teachings and Masonic obligations. It is just such evidence as the enemies of Masonry are looking for upon which to base charges of dishonesty against the great body of Masons. We can completely answer our enemies when they point out some isolated case of defalcation (they are exceedingly few among Masons) by answering the exact truth, *i. e.*, that the individual Mason forgot his teachings, disregarded his obligations, and violated his vows. But what answer shall we make when a Masonic body of the character and standing of the Grand Chapter of Michigan in effect announces to the world that it places no confidence whatever in either the lessons or obligations of Masonry?

We confess that we do not like to hear of any Masonic organizations applying to a guarantee association for protection against the acts of its own officers."

M. E. Comp. C. H. Cogswell, (Cedar Rapids,) G.H.P.

R. E. Comp. Alf. Wingate,) Des Moines,) G. S.

KANSAS

Twenty-second annual convocation, Atchison, February 15th, 1887.

M. E. Comp. Andrew Callaham, G.H.P.

He issued dispensations for five new Chapters and declined to grant five others, which were applied for.

He reports one decision :

"A brother has petitioned a Chapter in Ohio for the Capitular degrees and has been elected. Before receiving any of the degrees he removed to Kansas. He desired to receive the degrees, and the Chapter in Ohio issued a certificate showing that he was elected to receive the degrees, but did not do so for the reasons stated, and forwarded said certificate to the Kansas Chapter, requesting that they confer the degrees.

First. Can the Kansas Chapter confer the degrees upon this request without a ballot upon the application of the candidate?

Second. If degrees are conferred in accordance to the request of the Ohio Chapter, to what Chapter does he belong?

To which I answered :

A Chapter of R. A. M. in Kansas may confer the Capitular degrees without ballot upon a Master Mason who has been elected to receive them in a R. A. Chapter in another Grand Jurisdiction—recognized by this Grand Chapter—upon the request of the Chapter that elected him, and when so conferred his membership and fees for conferring the degrees *both* belong to the Chapter that elected him ; *Provided*, always, that there is no objection to the candidate being made a R. A. M."

Among the Grand Representatives appointed, we notice the name of R. E. Comp. John M. Gibson, near Canada.

A committee of three skilled Companions, namely, John H. Brown, Jacob DeWitt and James P. Howe, were appointed to revise and formulate the ritual and report at the next meeting.

The following resolution of non-intercourse with the Grand Mark Lodge of England was adopted :

Resolved, That all Chapters of Royal Arch Masons working under authority of the M. E. Grand Chapter of Kansas are strictly forbidden in any manner to recognize as Mark Master Masons *any person or persons* claiming to have received that degree in any organization holding under the authority of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales, whether they be established in North America or elsewhere and that this order of non-intercourse shall be and remain in full force and effect from adoption until it shall be revoked by this Grand Chapter."

The Grand Secretary reports on correspondence and gives a fraternal notice to our proceedings of 1886.

M. E. Comp. William D. Thompson, (Minneapolis,) G. H. P.
R. E. Comp. John H. Brown, (Wyandotte,) G. S.

KENTUCKY.

Seventy-second annual convocation, Louisville, October 18th, 1887.

M. E. Comp. Hiram Bassett, G. H. P.

He declined all applications for dispensations to confer degrees out of time, for these reasons :

"A number of applications for authority to act upon petitions and confer degrees 'out of time'—that is before the expiration of the probationary period as fixed by the constitution—were declined for want of power.

Whatever other prerogatives the Grand High Priest may possess, the present incumbent of that office is clearly of opinion that he has no power to set aside an express and imperative provision of the organic law—that he has no more power to *break* than to *make* laws. In cases where the law is silent—where no statutory provision is made—he would not hesitate to act, but he does not believe that the Grand High Priest possesses power, during vacation, that the Grand Chapter can not exercise when sitting, save in the manner prescribed by the constitution. He is aware that most of his predecessors have taken a different view, and granted dispensations for the purpose named ; and if it be desirable that such power be exercised by the chief executive officer of this Grand Body, he recom-

mends that the constitution be so amended as to confer it upon him in express terms. The incumbent could then have no doubt as to his authority in the premises."

We also copy his decisions :

"1. March 18.—That when a candidate refuses or fails to come forward, and take the degrees after his election, he forfeits the fee deposited, and its return is optional with the Chapter.

2. April 19.—That a member, when present, has the inalienable right to object to any one as a visitor, and the H. P., or presiding officer, is bound to respect such objection and refuse admission to the Companion objected to ; nor can the member objecting be required to give his reasons.

3. June 13.—A Companion under suspension may be tried for an offence which, if established, would subject him to expulsion.

4. August 25.—That a Subordinate Chapter might provide in its by-laws for the election of such officers as the Grand Chapter elects, and for the appointment of such, of corresponding grade, as the Grand High Priest appoints,

I am aware that the *letter* of the law may be construed as indicating that all the officers of a Subordinate Chapter be elected, but thought it would be safe to follow the practice of the Grand Chapter and appoint those of a grade corresponding to her appointed officers. I was induced to take this view of the subject—justified, as I think, by the Constitution and custom of the Grand Chapter—because a High Priest would more certainly select competent officers, who would learn the ritual and advance the interests of the Chapter, than would probably be secured in a chance election.

5. August 25.—That a simple notice, through the Post-office, to appear at a given time and show cause why he should not be suspended for non-payment of dues, was not sufficient, but that, as the offence charged invoked more or less of *moral* delinquency, the same preliminary steps as required by the Grand Chapter in other cases of that nature should be taken."

We do not agree with the first of the above rulings. We think the fee should be returned to the applicant. Surely a Masonic body does not want to take any one's money for nothing.

A revised ritual was approved by the Grand Council and placed in the hands of subordinate Chapters at the following scale of prices :—one copy, \$4 ; two copies, \$7 ; three copies, \$8 ; five copies, \$10. Comp. Bassett believes that it is the best ritual that has come under his knowledge and he also gives expressions of approval from prominent ritualists of other jurisdictions.

A distinguished visitor was present in the person of M.W. Bro. S. Stacker Williams, Grand Master of Ohio.

A Chapter by-law was declared unconstitutional, which provided for the appointment of certain subordinate officers, while the constitution declares that they shall be elected by ballot.

New Brunswick was recognized.

The report on correspondence is by Comp. H. B. Grant, who opens as follows :

“With one single notable exception (Comp. Bowen, of Colorado), so far as we have noticed, Grand Lodges and Grand Chapters are referred to as ‘*Sister Grand Lodges*’ or ‘*Sister Grand Chapters*.’

Inasmuch as Masonic bodies are composed of men, exclusively, who are called ‘*Fellows*,’ ‘*Brothers*,’ ‘*Companions*,’ and ‘*Sir Knights*,’ why do we use the feminine gender in referring to them in the aggregate? Suppose we call them ‘*Fellow Grand Lodge*,’ ‘*Companion Grand Chapter*,’ ‘*Frater Grand Commandery*,’ or let ‘em all be *Fellows*, because we are assured that they are *good* ‘*fellows*.’

OUR VIEWS.

We fear that our views of the best manner of reporting on the doings of other Grand Chapters may not be successfully presented, yet we shall make the effort, because it is better to fail after having tried, than not to try at all.

We are decided in our opinion that a report of this nature ought not only to notice the things done, but to discuss the law of the case, if any difference in construction or usage appears, because ‘in the abrasion of minds, truth is evolved’ and uniformity may, perchance be promoted. We think, also, that it is time for reporters to lose their claim to membership in a ‘mutual admiration society.’ Let us be frank, companions, as we are sure that all mean to be kind.”

Canada for 1887 receives a good notice. After recounting the officers present, he says :

“*But the strangest of all* is, the Grand Mark Lodge of England and Wales was present by its Grand Representative ! The name of M. E. Comp. James Seymour, the Representative, is also among the list of Grand Representatives, and the proceedings of the Grand Mark Lodge are reviewed, yet non-intercourse has been proclaimed and now stands unrepealed, if we are not all askew.”

Score one for Kentucky !

He also notes our resolution setting apart Australia as a district on our register, and asks “How will this affect the doctrine of exclusive jurisdiction relied upon in the quarrel with

the Grand Mark Lodge of England?" The answer to this is that the doctrine of exclusive jurisdiction is not affected at all. Australia is unoccupied territory, having no Grand Chapter of its own having exclusive jurisdiction there, and we have the same right to plant Chapters there as any other Grand Chapter.

On dancing, in his review of Illinois, he says :

"The Grand High Priest decided that a chapter could have a dance under its name or auspices !

We are not opposed to dancing, yet can but regret that 'Masonic balls' are permitted, holding that nothing should be done by a Masonic body that could not be heartily participated in by every member, or, at least, that the consciences of members would prevent their co-operating in whatever was done."

On what should appear in official records, he says :

"That *facts* are what a Masonic record should show, and nothing more ;

That an objection or 'protest' lasts until removed by the objector, and the chapter has no right to know who the objector is, but the fact must be of record.

To the decision next to the last we respectfully supply an addenda : 'And it is wholly unwarranted for a Secretary to insert his opinions in the record, such as : "The Grand Master then delivered an eloquent and graceful address ;"' or "'The Grand Chaplain made a most elegant and fervent appeal to Deity."' If he may commend he may censure, and either would be his opinion, which he can not properly give officially or otherwise in such a record. A record of proceedings, like beauty, is best adorned when unadorned."

On the Past Master's degree, he is sound in desiring to have it abolished from the Chapter :

"Whether Pennsylvania is "conservative" or not is not the question with us just now. The views expressed by Comp. Henderson "fits our square" in so far as they oppose the association of this absurdity with the chapter ; and, for that matter, we would be happy to see it expunged from the list of regular degrees of lodge and chapter, because there is nothing in it. It is a burlesque on Masonry. It professes to teach a lesson that is lost in the absurdity of the surroundings. It undertakes to teach certain things important for the Master to know, but which are equally important for the brethren to be informed of. Why teach the Master and not the Wardens, who may at any time succeed to the chair in his absence ?

Besides, calling one a 'Past Master,' when he has never in its true significance 'passed the chair'—that is, served his term and vacated a real office—is misleading and is a fraud, as will appear from the last sentence quoted from Comp. Henderson's address,

The 'antiquity' of the degree is doubtful, and we opine that it is the result of Monitor makers and degree peddlers. No disrespect, of course,

but the authority, good and true, for this incubus on Masonry will be hard to find.

We hope Pennsylvania will take the lead in Grand Chapter to get rid of the time-eating, dignity-destroying fraud, burlesque and modern innovation before the next convocation of the General Grand Chapter, in which case, *D. V.*, we may make an effort to kick it out of the capitular curriculum."

We would gladly extract more from this excellent report but space forbids.

M. E. Comp. J. Soule Smith, (Lexington,) G.H.P.

R. E. Comp. Joseph H. Branham, (Louisville,) G. S.

MAINE.

Sixty-second annual convocation, Portland, May 3rd, 1887.

M. E. Comp. James M. Nevens, G.H.P.

Among the Grand Representatives appointed, we notice the name of R. E. Comp. David R. Monroe, of St. John, N.B., for Canada.

One new Chapter was organized.

The following reply was given by the Grand High Priest to an application to celebrate the centennial of a town:

"Answer.—As long as this Grand Chapter does not allow its subordinate chapters to appear out on Memorial Day to decorate the graves of our companions who lost their lives in defence of their country, their homes, family and friends, and all that was sacred and dear to them, it would seem more like sacrilege to grant a dispensation to a chapter allowing them to appear in street parade to celebrate the anniversary of a town. Dispensation withheld."

All the Grand Council submitted interesting reports, giving an account of their visitations and the condition of the Chapters.

The District Deputies also report great proficiency in the work of the subordinates.

The following amendment was adopted :

"Sec. 36. *Rejection.* No candidate whose application may have been rejected in any Chapter under this jurisdiction, shall be received in any Chapter other than that to which he first applied, except after five years from such rejection, unless the Chapter recommend him to another Chapter by an unanimous vote, taken by the secret ballot."

This amendment is a step in the right direction. It limits the "perpetual" jurisdiction over rejected candidates to a period of five years, quite long enough, we think.

M. E. Comp. Josiah H. Drummond submitted the following report, which was adopted :

"The Committee on Jurisprudence, to which was referred the matter of exchange of jurisdiction as to border towns in New Hampshire and Maine, have considered the matter and ask leave to report :

That they hold that the concession of concurrent jurisdiction in any part of the state to another Grand Chapter, is in conflict with the doctrine of exclusive territorial jurisdiction, and would be likely to lead to serious complications, and they cannot recommend any change in our law which would give general permission to candidates resident in Maine to apply to Chapters out of the state.

Our Constitution (Sec. 34) provides that candidates residing out of this state can apply to Chapters in this state only with the consent of the Chapter nearest their residence.

But they recommend that all our chapters, whose territorial jurisdiction borders upon the State of New Hampshire, be advised and requested to grant, as a matter of course, permission to candidates living nearer a New Hampshire Chapter to apply to such chapter, unless the candidate is deemed unworthy.

If the Grand Chapter of New Hampshire will adopt the same rule, the object of the M. E. Grand High Priest, as stated in his communication, will practically be effected."

We prefer that the request and permission should be exchanged between the grand bodies and not the subordinates. Our Grand Lodge, at its last meeting decided that intercourse between subordinate lodges of different jurisdictions should be through the grand officers of their respective grand lodges, and that the request of a lodge in Quebec to a lodge in Ontario to confer the third degree on a member of the Quebec lodge, should be approved by the Grand Master of Quebec and assented by the Grand Master of Canada. Of course, these permissions should be freely granted, but we do not want any jurisdictional complications, and if the grand officers are informed of all such cases, there is less likelihood of any trouble resulting.

The report on foreign correspondence is by Comp. Drummond, as usual, and is full of interesting comments.

He believes

“That the identification of a companion as the High Priest of the chapter, precludes any inquiry in his chapter into the question of his being a Royal Arch Mason in good standing, or any examination of those for whom he vouches expressly, or by necessary implication, as by appointing them to fill places in the Grand Council.”

Or as we would say it, those who are invited to seats in the east by the First Principal, should not be required to give the P. W.

In his notice of the report of Comp. Caswell, of California, we find the following :

“Referring to the case in which a member of a Grand Lodge was ‘expelled from the Grand Lodge,’ and the claim that such action was only ‘qualified expulsion’ and left the party in good standing as a Master Mason and consequently as a chapter mason also, he says :

“This is a most singular action on the part of a Grand Lodge, and without more explicit explanation we do not feel qualified to discuss the matter intelligently ; but of one thing we are very certain : that in Masonry, no such thing as qualified expulsion is known. The Grand Lodge is, of course, the judge of the qualifications of its own members ; but no member can be expelled by that body without due process of law ; charges must be preferred against him, and he must be regularly tried and convicted before he can be expelled ; and when once expelled, he is expelled all over ; no half-way business about it. With as much propriety might we expel a brother from the Master Mason’s Lodge, yet allow him all the privileges of the Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft. O! no. Comp. Parish, qualified expulsion is a little too much for out California digestion ; here we must have the entire swine or no pork.”

The question as to the proper mode of proceeding when a Royal Arch Mason is expelled by his lodge, especially considering the generally settled law that restoration by his lodge restores him in the chapter, is a very complicated one ; and after much consideration of the matter we have materially changed our views.

We have held that expulsion by the lodge operates as expulsion, technical expulsion, by the chapter ; and we have argued that he could not be tried by the chapter, because he was already expelled ; and further, that restoration by the lodge ought not to restore him in the chapter without its consent, although we admitted that the practice was pretty generally the other way. But we are satisfied that expulsion by the lodge is not, properly speaking, expulsion from the chapter. Such companion ceases to be a Royal Arch Mason in good standing, because he cannot be, or remain, such unless he is a Master Mason. Yet he is not *technically* expelled from the chapter, which may properly proceed to try him ; if he is convicted, he may be suspended or expelled precisely as if he had not been tried by the lodge, and then when he is restored by the lodge, he is not restored in the chapter but has only become *eligible* to restoration ; if he is acquitted by the chapter, he still remains under the disability of the lodge expulsion, and cannot enjoy his chapter privileges until restored by the lodge, and then he

is restored in the chapter also. This seems to us the logical result of the relations between the lodge and the chapter.

We find we did him an injustice in our last report, in stating that he concurred in Bro. Gurney's views that a chapter is not a masonic body. On the contrary, he holds that the chapter, council and commandry are a part of the great masonic system of the United States. We fear we drew the inference by reading the first part of what he said and *not* reading carefully the second paragraph.

We have had quite a discussion with Comp. C. in relation to the 'prerogative doctrine.' It will be remembered that the Grand High Priest of his Grand Chapter a few years ago announced that he found a chapter in such a condition that, under the express law of the Grand Chapter, it could not be opened: but that he, acting upon the advice of Comp. Caswell, had opened it without any law. We 'prerogative fellows' clapped our hands and cried 'bravo,' to such an extent that Comp. Caswell not only 'took to the woods,' but also 'climbed a tree,' and from that position vainly undertook to deny that the Grand High Priest had exercised the prerogative attached to his office under the unwritten law of Masonry. After fighting it out on that line for *three or four* summers, he 'slides down from the tree' in the following manner:

"We propose to show that our Grand High Priest did, neither in form nor substance, dispense with the law, or violate its provisions. Article IX, Section 3, Subdivision 4 of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter of California, in defining the powers of the Grand High Priest, reads as follows:

"4th. He shall have power to convene any chapter within his jurisdiction, preside therein, inspect its proceedings, and give such orders and instructions as he may deem necessary."

"We think this provision gives the Grand High Priest latitude enough to do pretty much anything that may be necessary for the interest of the craft, without assuming any prerogative or dispensing with the law. We propose to slide down out of that tree upon this plank, if we rupture the seat of our masonic breeches in doing so, and Comp. D. is welcome to all the titillation he can get out of the subject."

Comment would be entirely superfluous!"

Canada for 1886 receives careful attention. He makes several extracts from the reports of our Superintendents and then says:

"This is not a fair average of the reports, and there is one curious circumstance; in some districts the large majority of the chapters are reported as in a poor condition: while in others almost all are reported to be in a prosperous condition. Whether there is so much actual difference, or whether the views of the Superintendents do not account for a part of the difference, we cannot tell. One thing seems quite certain: *there are too many chapters*. This seems to be understood, for one or more charters have been surrendered, and the process of consolidation has been commenced. The appearance is that quite a number of chapters are dead, or must soon die.

One Superintendent says:

"My experience has shown that if the number to constitute a quorum was reduced, the meetings in small chapters in country places would be more frequent. The difficulty frequently happens in being unable to secure the presence of three Principals. One Principal should suffice for ordinary business, and five members constitute a quorum. This change would be a good one for rural chapters."

We do not think the first suggestion a wise one : but the second one seems to us eminently so.

One thing is very certain : the reports of the Superintendents give the Grand Chapter a very accurate statement of the condition of the craft, un'less they have made very serious errors in judgment.

Comp. J. Ross Robertson, for the Executive Committee, made an able and well-considered report anent this matter.

They recommend the consolidation of adjacent chapters, the withdrawal of charters, the exercise of greater care in creating new chapters, and the holding of chapters of instruction.

A careful examination of these Proceedings satisfies us that, if the condition of the craft is not what we desire it to be, the fault does not lie with the officers of the Grand Chapter ; for certainly they (including the Superintendents) have been active, able and faithful."

We call special attention to the words we have italicized, that there are too many Chapters.

On the powers of Chapters under dispensation, he says :

"This is undoubtedly true of chapters U. D. which derive all their powers from the officer granting the dispensation : but in more recent times, Grand Bodies have seen fit to legislate for bodies U. D. and grant them other powers, and the old chapter U. D. is now scarcely known. It was found that if the old rule was fully carried out, a body U. D. could not exist : it could have no by-laws ; it could not try one of its members : order in it was at the mercy of every one present, and so many defects existed that for the safety of the craft very many Grand Bodies (including the General Grand Chapter) have by constitutional provision invested them with all the powers of chartered bodies, except the election and installation of officers and the rights growing out of installation. We have had this system in Maine many years, and it works perfectly."

* In his notice of the report of Comp. Dadmun, of Massachusetts, we find the following :

"In answer to our question, 'How can an honorable man sever his connection with the fraternity?' he says :

"It is evident there is no law in Masonry to meet such a case ; and we doubt very much whether such a law could be made without tearing up the foundation of Freemasonry. 'Once a mason always a mason,' applies to just such brethren—'honorable men,' holding a dimitt from *membership* and not from Masonry, and which always used to mean an *honorable* discharge. They did not know, and were not informed, when they entered the fraternity, that it *was for life*, if they remained 'honorable men,'

“For that reason we have always held that it was sheer persecution to vilify a *dimitted* brother because he does not contribute to the support of some lodge. If he could not obtain an honorable dimit that would sever his connection from the fraternity,’ and refuse to avail himself of it, it would alter the case amazingly. But as long as he is bound to the *fraternity*, and subject to trial and disgrace for non-affiliation—according to modern law in some jurisdictions—the dishonor lies at the door of those who deny him the rights of ‘conscience,’ and trample his honest convictions in the dust. Better abolish dimitts altogether than to make the holding of them dishonorable. Shame on the man, or the body of men, that will not honor their own signature.”

But let us see : when a man enters the Fraternity ‘for life,” he does it upon the assurance that it will not interfere with certain duties which are admitted to be superior to his masonic duties : a few instances have occurred in which masons have come to the conclusion conscientiously that their duty to God was inconsistent with their remaining masons. We do not think that it will be held that duty to God is not superior to duty as a mason. We cannot flippantly dispose of the *conscientious* belief of a mason, even if we hold that he is in error. We confess, that it seems to us harsh to *expel* a mason who cannot conscientiously remain with us, and whom we cannot release, and who, in order to get released, must abjure masonry and thus furnish ground for his expulsion. While our question may not often arise in practice, it is one involving very serious considerations.”

We have no harsh laws against non-affiliates. If a member finds that he cannot conscientiously remain connected with the Order, he takes his dimit and we find no fault with him for that. It would be too absurd for us to try to force him to continue with us. We would bind no man’s conscience and he should be as free to depart as he was to enter. Our institution is, and always has been able to retain the respect, veneration and esteem of countless thousands of able, intelligent and conscientious men, of all denominations of the Christian brotherhood, and we can surely afford to allow those who do not feel at home with us to seek more congenial society.

Comp. Drummond does not believe in the doctrine that every member of a Chapter must continue a member of some Lodge or lose his Chapter membership. He thinks this is a modern notion and directly in conflict with usage ever since Royal Arch Masonry was organized. We thoroughly agree with him on this point and have so argued for some time.

We also agree with the following remarks on the admissibility of the judgment of a civil court in Masonic trials :

“It is said that the evidence produced in the civil court may be equally produced before the lodge: this is not true, theoretically or practically. the civil court can *compel* the attendance of witnesses, while the lodge can have only those who testify *voluntarily*; and it is well known that very, very often it is impracticable to obtain the testimony of profanes. We hold, therefore, that the judgment of the civil courts should be admitted in masonic trials, to receive such weight as each member of the lodge deems just, leaving the accused or the prosecutor, as the case may be, to overcome the effect of it by other evidence if he can.

During the past twenty-five years we have had occasion to consider this question carefully and often, and this is the conclusion to which we have arrived. It would be a great disgrace to masonry if a member, convicted in court by testimony of profanes, should be held to be a mason in good standing simply because those profanes would not testify in the lodge. The fact that the lodge cannot compel the production of evidence is amply sufficient reason for the use of evidence intrinsically weighty, but inadmissible if we adopt the sharp technicality of the courts.”

On the decrease of membership in some places, he says :

“In many localities, the material has been substantially worked up, and the only candidates are the young men as they become of proper age: in such localities it follows, that the chapter can increase only as the population increases, and if that only holds its own or falls off, the chapter can only hold its own or fall off: this is true of the older jurisdictions, while sometimes in the newer ones a town flourishing for a time suddenly moves away in consequence of the failure of some industry or the completion of some railroad. Of course, the cause indicated in this paragraph is not the main cause, especially in this state, in which there has been a continuous and steady though slow growth during the last decade, in which Comp. Ogden assumes there has been a falling off.

Undoubtedly the large growth in the preceding decade, followed by the ‘hard times’ of the last one, is one factor in the problem. This has been intensified by the increased severity in the enforcement of the laws for non-payment of dues, and in several jurisdictions by the heavy increase of dues growing out of the erection of masonic temples and charitable institutions. New York is an example of both of these, and the falling off has been large, while in the New England States, where neither of these causes has operated, there has been a growth, small indeed, but a *growth*.

Beyond question the popular craze after ‘beneficial’ and ‘insurance’ societies has been the most potent cause for decrease in the number of candidates that otherwise would have applied, and increase in the number of those falling out for non-payment of dues. This is a cause which time only can remove, but which time will remove as surely as time lasts. So far as this ‘craze’ leads to a diminution in the interest taken in Masonry, it may be partially counteracted by the zeal and fidelity of the craft.

The other causes are beyond our control, save that the greatest wisdom should govern in the imposition of burdens on the craft, and in dealing with those who may be delinquent, erring, if at all, on the side of liberality to the individual member.”

He thinks that a Mark Lodge can be opened without first opening the Chapter.

We have made so many extracts that we have no room for any further comments. We copy his table of statistics :

GRAND CHAPTERS.	Members.	Exaltations.	Admissions and Restorations	Dimissions.	Expulsions.	Suspensions.	Sus. for Non- payment of dues.	Deaths.
Alabama.....	464	23	8	9	0	0	15	6
Arkansas.....	1,235	112	42	21	2	1	59	25
California.....	4,180	241	81	72	1	....	*75	63
Canada.....	3,658	148	24	103	0	....	*92	31
Colorado.....	1,264	114	15	36	0	....	*7	9
Connecticut.....	4,227	150	14	21	0	0	36	67
Dakota.....	958	159	32	44	0	....	*11	8
Delaware.....	275	15	1	1	0	....	*8	6
District of Columbia.....	1,259	113	35	21	0	....	*22	21
Florida.....	259	26	9	5	0	....	*6	13
Georgia.....	1,084	65	26	29	0	....	*18	15
Illinois.....	12,341	834	121	303	5	....	*235	141
Indiana.....	4,912	238	48	182	13	4	89	61
Iowa.....	6,382	501	94	247	8	....	*152	47
Kansas.....	3,155	296	70	94	1	....	*15	36
Kentucky.....	2,260	152	34	87	2	....	*99	44
Louisiana.....	682	21	7	3	0	6	9	29
Maine.....	4,362	183	20	44	0	0	35	53
Maryland.....	1,202	61	29	32	2	....	*32	19
Massachusetts.....	9,897	557	....	205	14	....	110	107
Michigan.....	8,738	565	69	182	3	3	123	109
Minnesota.....	2,844	200	34	74	0	0	55	23
Mississippi.....	1,135	42	20	20	0	0	64	25
Missouri.....	4,786	193	73	80	0	....	*77	45
Nebraska.....	1,706	246	128	67	2	....	*33	9
Nevada †.....	352	32	12	17	0	0	17	4
New Brunswick ‡.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
New Hampshire.....	2,517	115	126	17	0	0	4	38
New Jersey.....	2,465	104	26	70	0	....	*57	29
New York.....	15,267	900	173	238	4	1	562	231
North Carolina.....	930	41	7	6	0	2	1	8
Nova Scotia †.....	507	38	2	18	0	2	....	6
Ohio.....	10,584	629	187	239	17	0	440	120
Oregon.....	706	34	18	23	1	0	14	8
Pennsylvania.....	11,769	618	77	96	1	....	*228	146
Quebec.....	454	29	3	13	0	....	*16	6
Rhode Island.....	1,758	72	4	3	1	0	3	20
South Carolina †.....	354	21	8	3	0	0	14	4
Tennessee.....	1,904	68	40	56	0	2	64	29
Texas.....	3,882	317	111	147	6	....	*91	89
Vermont.....	2,190	98	6	18	0	....	*16	44
Virginia.....	1,323	104	21	32	0	....	35	26
Washington.....	329	77	29	9	0	0	0	3
West Virginia.....	529	69	5	10	0	1	11	7
Wisconsin.....	4,137	266	78	96	1	....	*57	41
General Grand Chapter...	1,118	82	32	32	0	....	*3	7
	146,339	8,969	1,999	3,125	84	22	3,110	1,878

*Including all suspensions. †No returns; lasts year's figures.

‡Just organized; no statistics given.

"The total membership is 146,339, as against 142,194 in 1886; the exaltations 8,969, as against 7,839; the admissions and restorations, 1,999, as against 1,822; the dismissions 3,125, as against 3,014; the expulsions 84, as against 74; suspensions (including suspensions from membership and dropping from the roll), 3,132, as against 2,925; and the deaths, 1,878, as against 1,854.

Alabama, Arkansas, Canada, Kentucky, Mississippi, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, Oregon and Quebec have fallen off during the year.

M. E. Comp. James M. Nevens, (Bucksport,) G.H.P.

R. E. Comp. Ira Berry, (Portland,) G. S.

MARYLAND.

Ninetieth annual convocation held at Baltimore, November 8th, 1887.

M. E. Comp. Henry C. Larrabee, G.H.P.

He formed one new Chapter.

On a resolution proposed by Comp. E. T. Schultz, the new Grand Chapter of New Brunswick was recognized.

In the report of the committee on the doings of grand officers we find the following paragraphs:

"The increase in membership, small as it is, is greater than that of several years past and is a subject of congratulation, as also the interest manifested by the Companions in the acquisition and practice of the work of the Chapter.

Beautiful, instructive and entertaining as the Capitular Ritual is, it needs only to be properly learned and understood to be thoroughly appreciated by Companions, and to this end visitations and exemplifications among the Subordinate Chapters are productive of much good."

The special committee on Comp. Schultz's History of Freemasonry in Maryland, reported as follows, and the report was adopted:

"The Committee to whom was referred the matter of a subscription to Companion E. T. Schultz's History of Freemasonry in Maryland, commend the publication as a most valuable and praiseworthy contribution to the literature of the Craft; and in view of the dedication already made and in contemplation of the History of Royal Arch Masonry in our state, we recommend a subscription of \$150, one half to be paid immediately and the balance upon the completion of the work and the delivery to the Grand Secretary of two bound copies to be preserved among the Archives of the Grand Chapter."

The report on Foreign Correspondence by Comp. Schultz

is as usual, very interesting. Canada for 1887 receives due notice. In his review of Dakota, he says :

“Neither in ‘Maryland’ or elsewhere does an applicant ‘become a member by signing a contract.’ It requires two parties to consummate a contract, and we deny that the Lodge or Chapter enters into any contract with a petitioner. In the one case a petitioner asks to become a member of the Masonic fraternity, in the other, to become a Royal Arch Mason, pays the required fees, and if accepted, is entitled to all the rights and privileges appertaining thereto. Upon the payment of the additional yearly or quarterly sum he is entitled to the privileges of a particular Lodge or Chapter, which privileges he may at any time voluntarily surrender, or from which he may be deprived by refusing to pay the required membership fees, *without* in the least affecting his rights as a Master Mason or Royal Arch Mason.

Refusing to allow a Brother to demit, virtually compells the Brethren ‘to associate with shirkers,’ as Companion Wilder terms those desiring to surrender their membership privileges.

Companion Wilder expresses disappointment because we did not ‘tackle’ the following subject mooted by Companion Drummond last year, to wit : ‘If any man, on account of conscience or for any other reason, wishes in good faith to cease his connection with the fraternity, by all means, if he be an honorable man, let him be granted a dimit in which the facts are clearly stated. The dimit only severs Lodge membership, it does not sever his connection with the fraternity ; and the question is, ought there not be some method by which an honorable man, who wishes to do so, can sever his connection with the fraternity ; We wish the reporters would discuss this matter.’ Quoting this and our remark, that we were too modest to be the first to tackle this question, he says :

‘Now, Companion Schultz, is this charity ? No one is better able to discuss this question and show it up in all its bearings than you are. Well we are used to disappointments and can stand it if the rest can.’

We are sorry that our failure to discuss this question should have proven a disappointment to Companion Wilder, but to make amends, we will now give him our opinion upon the subject :

While it might seem as Companion Drummond intimates there ought to be some method by which an honorable man who wishes to so do, can sever his connection with the fraternity, but to enable him to do this, he would necessarily have to be absolved from the obligations, that of *Secrecy* as well as all others. This of course is not permissible, hence such a proposition cannot be entertained, ‘Once a Mason always a Mason.’ We can no more release a Brother from his obligations to the fraternity, than he can renounce them. Even one suspended or expelled is still a Mason, and is not released from its duties and obligations, his rights in the fraternity are only in abeyance, and if the sentence be revoked he is at once restored without any ceremony, whatever.

A Companion may, at his pleasure, withdraw his membership in Lodge or Chapter, but from membership in the fraternity *never*.”

And under Massachusetts :

“Until the year 1842, the business of the Lodges in our Jurisdiction

was transacted in the first degree, and we think it was a pity that the change was made, for as Companion Dadmun says, an Entered Apprentice is 'a just and upright Mason.'

We agree with the following from his notice of Michigan :

"A report presented by Companion McCurdy was adopted, to the effect, that the charter of a Chapter that has been discontinued *may* be restored upon the application of not less than nine of its former members, *and, if the Charter is restored, the petitioners only are members of the Chapter whose Charter is restored.* (*Italics ours.*) This we regard correct doctrine, although in some jurisdictions it is held that a restoration of the Charter restores the entire former membership."

Comp. Schultz does not favor Masonic bodies meeting in halls with other societies, but does not see any *insuperable* objections to their so doing. How about the solemn ceremonies of consecration and dedication ?

He believes that an officer who has taken an obligation to perform certain duties for a specified period cannot withdraw until the end of the term. But we think that if the constitution permits an officer to resign or to dimit, the obligation must be held to be qualified or modified by the provisions of the law under which it is administered.

M. E. Comp. C. C. Isaacs, (Baltimore,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. Geo. L. McCahan, (Baltimore,) G. S.

MASSACHUSETTS.

At the quarterly convocation held on September 13th, 1887, the new Grand Chapter of New Brunswick was recognized and the following report was adopted :

"The Committee to whom was referred so much of the Annual Address of the M. E. G. H. P. as relates to Committee on Foreign Correspondence have carefully considered the subject, and it gives them much pleasure that an opportunity is given to express the praise and gratitude which we are convinced is entertained by this Grand Chapter for the most able and satisfactory manner in which the labors of that Committee have been performed—earning fame, not only for the Committee but for this Grand Chapter, both at home and abroad.

Your Committee is in full sympathy with the recommendation of the M. E. G. H. P. that some substantial recognition should be made for the services of that Committee, and realizing as we do that the income of this Grand Chapter is not at present sufficient to warrant them in recommending such a sum as would, in their judgment, be commensurate with the services performed, do recommend that as a partial recognition of the Committee's

valuable services, the sum of \$50.00 be paid to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, and would further recommend that as soon as the income of this Grand Chapter will warrant, the amount be increased from year to year until such an amount shall be reached as will be an equitable recompense for the services."

Eighty-seventh annual convocation held at Boston, December 13th, 1887.

M. E. Comp. Frederick T. Comee, G.H.P.

The work was exemplified in all the degrees.

A proposition was made that the fee for a dispensation to elect officers at other than the stated meeting should be five dollars. but no action appears to have been taken on it.

In the address of the Grand High Priest we find the following excellent remarks :

"Companions, I congratulate you upon the generally satisfactory and harmonious condition of the Chapters within our jurisdiction. I am particularly pleased to mention a marked improvement in the condition of some of our weaker Chapters, where an increased and more active interest among the members has resulted in several applications for the degrees, inspired new zeal among the officers, and given fresh life and vigor to the Chapters.

Companions, I am a thorough believer in the individual responsibility of each one of us for the success or failure of the subordinate Chapters to which we belong. If any of them are suffering from a suspension of work, poor attendance at the meetings, and general lack of interest, let us not content ourselves with wishing the Chapter was like some more prosperous one, criticising other members, or staying away from the meetings, but let us put our own shoulders to the wheel, bear our full portion of the burden, do whatever part of the work we can do, however humble it may be. Let all see that we are unselfishly interested in the success of the Chapter, determined to improve its condition, and willing to make some personal sacrifice for its good, and urge others to do the same. In condensed form, *stop grumbling and go to work.* Such action on the part of the members of any chapter, however weak, and whatever its condition, will soon restore it to an active, healthy condition, and make it an ornament to the Grand Chapter, and a blessing to its members. The officers of a Chapter alone can do but little. They may be regular and punctual in attendance, perfect in ritual, and devote their best efforts to the Chapter's interest, with but poor success, unless they have the encouragement of, and are stimulated by, the hearty co-operation and support of the members. Particularly do I feel that the duty of willing assistance rests upon the Past High Priests, who are too often inclined to neglect the Convocations and work of their Chapter as soon as their official service is ended, just at a time when they are best qualified by knowledge and experience to render valuable aid to both officers and members.

I know it is the desire of every Companion to serve this Grand Chapter

and assure you that the most acceptable and profitable service we can render it is to give our warmest and most devoted support to the subordinate Chapters to which we belong. Let each one, in his own Chapter and among his companions in daily life, endeavor to exemplify the beautiful teachings of our Order ; give full and willing support to the officers ; strive to honor others rather than to be honored ; look with charitable eye upon companions who may fail to meet the full requirements of the standard for a perfect Royal Arch Mason ; withhold all unfavorable criticism, and avoid all appearance of unpleasant feeling ; so placing upon the Altar of the Chapter an acceptable sacrifice of brotherly love, of true Masonic charity and pure and loyal devotion to the tenets of our institution."

The report on correspondence is again by Comp. John W. Dadmun. Canada for 1887 receives kindly mention. Several of our remarks are quoted with approval. He is rather inclined to believe that Masons are in some manner degenerating from the old days, when the intimacy sedulously kept up among the brethren was the chief feature of the institution and the deserved cause of their prosperity. In his notice of Maryland we find the following :

"Companions, we are drawing no picture of the fancy and imagination; we mean all that, and more. When the writer came into Masonry, thirty years ago, we did not "meet upon the level" *merely in the Lodge-room*, but in the counting-room, the work-shop, and all the marts of trade; openly called each other Brother, and entered into each others joys and sorrows, If a Brother strayed from the path of rectitude, we went after him, as the Master did the lost sheep, and took him on our shoulders and brought him back. He was a Mason, one of the fold, and we were bound to save him. *Now*, if a Brother deviates a little from Masonic-law, is it not too often the case that he is set adrift, and left to the mercy of the winds and waves of a cold and unsympathetic world? If he fail to pay a few dollars of dues, "suspend him"—"beat him"—"and leave him "half dead" by the roadside; and unless some one of *another* tribe or nation should "chance to pass that way," and have "compassion on him, bind up his wounds and take him to an inn," he must die unwept and uncared for. Oh that the divine Master were personally present, to give us more examples of *practical charity*; and that we might feel the warm pulsations of his divine, manly and loving heart! Let cold legalists study the history of the Good Samaritan."

On the subject of relative membership, Comp. Dadmun very ably replies to Comp. Bowen, of Nebraska, as follows :

"Comp. Bowen has got a baby in Nebraska Grand Chapter which he is nursing, and is afraid somebody is going to hurt it. But nobody wants to hurt the little creature. He must admit it is a new-comer, and ought not to claim for it any distinguished ancestry, although he occasionally tries to trace its genealogy in the natural order of succession from great antiquity. It being of the neuter gender, a dexterous linguist named it 'Relative Membership;' not very antique that's certain; and it is a wonder that some

of the 'fathers' did not discover its pedigree if it is really legitimate. However, we must not blame him for being proud of his offspring.

As this child has been introduced to the Masonic public, we must volunteer a little advice. First, don't undertake to trace its ancestry as far back as the 'Old Constitutions,' or the 'revival,' for no such thing as a Chapter was known in those days, and consequently no 'relative membership' between Lodge and Chapter. Secondly, do not misrepresent those who offer friendly criticism, as is done in the article furnished the "*Canadian Craftsman*," and re-printed in the Proceedings now under review, in these words: 'In some jurisdictions a Mason who *renounces Freemasonry* is furnished with a *perpetual certificate of good standing*—a dimit.' Is a Mason in good standing who '*renounces Freemasonry*?' and can any but Masons in *good standing* obtain a dimit in *any* jurisdiction? Without exception that is the most glaring misrepresentation we ever read on that subject; and there are others in the same category equally false. Thirdly, don't play double on the *voluntary* character of Freemasonry—by first denying it, and then partially admitting it. For example, you say 'the candidate comes to the door of Freemasonry of his own free-will and accord, and about that place the free-will and accord business ceases, so far as he is concerned.' We place against that statement this fact, that a candidate can, of his own free-will, stop anywhere he pleases in the ceremony. We should be ashamed of Freemasonry if it were otherwise. Farther than that, when an initiate becomes a member of the Lodge, if he is square on the books, and no charges are standing against him, he can claim a dimit as a *Masonic-right*, according to all the best authors on Masonic Jurisprudence. In Nebraska, if he wants to join the Chapter, he will be introduced to Master 'Relative Membership,' alias, Voluntary superintendent of Lodge Membership.

Now, Comp. Bowen, we will join you in *persuading* every Chapter-Mason to belong to some Lodge, but we will join no Mason nor body of Masons in pronouncing a Brother in *bad* standing whom his Grand Lodge has declared to be in *good* standing—that we have *no right to do*."

We have had our say on this subject before and need now only repeat that we agree with those who hold that a Royal Arch Mason may be a member of a Chapter in good standing without being affiliated with any Lodge, and also that each Grand Chapter is the sole judge of what shall constitute good standing in its own jurisdiction. It follows from the "comity of nations," that as we expect other Grand Chapters with whom we are in fraternal correspondence, to recognize those of our members whom we say are in good standing, that we will equally recognize those of their members whom they say are in good standing and refuse to recognize those of their members whom they say are not in good standing according to the laws of their jurisdiction.

Comp. Dadmun believes as we do, that the degree of Past

Master should be abolished from the Chapter. But how is it to be done? If the General Grand Chapter would boldly take the initiative and declare it not necessary or essential, we would follow suit.

"We know this Chapter Past Master's degree is no new subject, but it is an important one. We have long felt that the degree did not belong to the Chapter; that the manner of conferring it was a farce, and an incubus on the Fraternity. It has no historical connection with the rest of the degrees. Some say 'to abolish it would be an innovation.' An innovation on what? Upon a Lodge regulation 'that no one could receive the Royal Arch degree unless he had previously presided in a Lodge.' Is making a *quasi* Past Master—a mere *resemblance* of the reality—a proper observance of such a regulation? What would Freemasonry amount to if we could get no nearer the reality than that? Relegate it to the Lodge where it belongs and abolish the old regulation, since the Royal Arch is no longer conferred as a part of the Master Mason's degree."

We must also copy the following :

"In Massachusetts an initiate does *not* become a member of the Lodge until he signs the By-Laws; and in some Lodges a membership-fee, and a clear ballot are additional prerequisites. He is a member of the Fraternity, however, and so is a dimitted Mason. There are *two* ways, then, that 'one can be made a member of the Fraternity, and not a member of the Lodge.' The wording of the Pennsylvania 'petition,' which Comp. Harper so exultingly quotes, proves *our* position for the candidate 'prays (first) that he may be initiated into the *mysteries of Freemasonry*,' and when initiated, he becomes thereby a member of the Fraternity; the Lodge being a secondary matter. With us one may become a member of the Lodge where he was raised, or join some other one. The second clause in the 'petition' cited is not in any other one we have ever seen; and we do not believe it was originally in the Pennsylvania form. In our form the candidate petitions 'to become a member of your ancient Institution.' But the *form* is a small consideration compared with the great fact, that *general Masonic rights, and additional, or special, Lodge rights, are inherent in the very constitution of the Order.*

Comp. Harper is equally at fault when he touches the penalcode, which distinguishes between the rights and privileges of Masonry, and the rights and privileges of the Lodge. Non-payment of dues is an offence against the Lodge—if one is able to pay, and neglects to do so—for which his membership may be suspended, or his name stricken from the roll. He is still a Mason, and may commit an offence against Masonry, be tried and suspended, or expelled, from all Masonic rights. It has always been the law in Massachusetts that no Mason shall be suspended or expelled for non-payment of dues. 'In case of discipline,' then, not only the 'phraseology differs,' but the *status* differs. Masonic intercourse with one whose *membership* has been suspended is not forbidden by any law in Masonry we ever saw. The brother is a *quasi* member of his own Lodge, and may visit any other Lodge by 'permission of the Master, or vote of the Lodge.' Is the 'difference after all only verbal?' If our esteemed Companion had concluded his remarks by saying: 'We cannot accept the doctrine that suspension of Lodge membership' *is equivalent to suspension from all Masonic rights*, his 'verbal' difficulties would have disappeared.

The 'form of petition for Degrees' is an interesting subject. We have given Pennsylvania *versus* Massachusetts, and will now give Pennsylvania *versus* Pennsylvania. We find in her "*Ahiman Rezon*" of the date "1783, this law upon the subject: "Every person desirous of being made a *free* Mason in any Lodge, shall be *proposed* by a member thereof, who shall give an account of the candidate's name, age, quality, title, trade, place of residence, description of his person," etc. "And it is generally required that such *proposal* be seconded by some one or more members," etc., (*Italics not ours*). No written or printed petition was used, but the candidate was *verbally* "*proposed*," and proposed to be "made a *free* Mason," membership in Lodge *not* included.

Now we quote from the Records of St. John's Lodge, Portsmouth, N. H., dated "1739,"—almost forty years earlier—"Bro. ——— proposed Mr. ——— to be *made a Mason*," the only language used when candidates were proposed. Canada's form is "I freely and voluntarily offer myself a candidate for the mysteries of Freemasonry," etc., "membership in Lodge" not being named in any of the proposals" or applications quoted. Comp. Schultz well says:

"We consider the clause 'that he may become a member of your honorable Lodge,' in the applicant's petition, an *innovation*. It is not in any of the old forms that we have seen, and we much question whether it is used in any other jurisdiction in this country. In the old forms, and we believe in the form generally used now, the applicant offers himself a candidate for the *mysteries of Freemasonry*, and promises if elected, a cheerful compliance with the rules and regulations governing the *fraternity*."

But have no space for further comments.

M. E. Comp. Arthur G. Pollard, (Lowell,) G.H.P.

R. E. Comp. Alfred F. Chapman, (Boston,) G. S.

MICHIGAN.

Thirty-ninth annual convocation, Grand Rapids, January 17th, 1888.

M. E. Comp. Eugene P. Robertson, G.H.P.

He granted dispensations for two new Chapters.

The decisions of the Grand High Priest indicate that he is a careful student of the laws and landmarks. He believes that a Grand High Priest has no power to set aside the provisions of the constitution of the Grand Chapter. We copy a few of the most important rulings:

"1. February 1, I received a letter from the High Priest of St. Clair Chapter, No. 12, informing me that he feared they had been violating Masonic law, by receiving petitions from Canada, and conferring Mark and Past degrees upon one of them, and asked if he could not finish the one commenced?

Answer. You are quite correct, you have violated Masonic law. I know of but one rule of action when you are convinced that you are doing wrong, stop at once, and make amends as far as possible. It is impossible

for me to give you a permit to continue to violate Masonic law. Perhaps the Chapter in Canada in whose jurisdiction the Brothers live will elect said Brothers to the degrees, and ask you to confer them. Please look the matter up, and report.

It gives me pleasure to inform you that the whole matter was settled amicably between the two interested Chapters. The Canada Chapter conferred the degrees.

2. Question. In January, 1887, I asked for and was granted a dimit from Mystic Lodge, No. 14, but the Worshipful Master refused to give me a certificate, because I live in the jurisdiction of the Lodge. Of course I cannot affiliate without the dimit. Can I legally hold my office as High Priest, situated as I am?

Answer. Yes; any member of a Chapter in good and regular standing is eligible to the office of High Priest. See constitution of Grand Chapter, page eleven, article eight section six.

3. Question. J. Weatherwax, High Priest.—Our Chapter has application of Brother—, a Master Mason in good standing, who has had the misfortune to lose the fingers from his left hand. Can we receive the application, taking into consideration the physical defect? We are desirous to go straight.

Answer. See article ten, section five, of Grand Chapter constitution. I am quite a stickler for the ancient landmarks; should much prefer to err in their favor. Don't make a mistake. You know the subject—use your best judgment.

4. Question. Galesburg, No. 61.—We have a man whom we have worked to Royal Arch degree, and he is anxious to finish. We wish to let him take the Royal Arch degree at Kalamazoo, and they would be glad to confer it upon him. Please grant special dispensation for same.

Answer. It does not require special dispensation in the matter. If your Chapter requests No. 13 to confer the degree, and they consent to do so, it is all that is necessary."

"8. Question. High Priest, Menominee, No. 107.—What is the Masonic length of a cable tow, as referred to in the obligation of a Royal Arch Mason, where it says: I will—

* * * * *

Answer. Did I know you personally, feeling I knew your ability to do and to act, I might think your cable tow should be very long in certain cases, but you in your own conscience might and could think very different; you must be the judge; you have control. Therefore I conclude that the cable tow differs in length, as man differs in opinion."

This last decision involves a new point. We do not remember seeing it before. According to the ancient laws of Freemasonry, every brother must attend his lodge, if it is within the length of his cable-tow, which is three English miles or 15,840 feet. There should be no difference of opinion about a well-ascertained fact, nor should this definite distance be changed to suit the whim or conscience of any brother. We

should be glad to know the authority or reason for this decision, being, as we take it, contrary to ancient custom and usage.

In the report of the committee on jurisprudence, which was adopted, we find the following comments on the first decision :

“There can be no doubt that the Grand High Priest held right in decision number one, that a Michigan Chapter cannot confer the degrees on residents of Canada. But to guard against a misconstruction of the decision, your committee think it proper to say that a Chapter in Michigan cannot confer the degrees for a Canadian Chapter, even on request. • If the latter sees fit to adopt our work, as was done in this instance, it is its own concern. It is no warrant for us to continue such a practice, which it seems has obtained for some years on the Canadian frontier. Michigan and Canadian Chapters cannot agree to do work for each other.”

In the same report, the law as to objections is thus summarized :

“An objection cannot stop the ballot. As often as the petitioner applies, no matter how many times rejected, the petition must be received and the applicant submitted to the scrutiny of the ballot. If he is elected, an objection will stop him, if no degree has been conferred, and his money ought to be refunded. If he has received one or more degrees, an objection will not avail for more than thirty days, unless charges and specifications are filed. If this is done, a trial must be had. If he is found guilty, the proper penalty will follow, and his money need not be refunded. If he is acquitted, he should receive the remaining degrees.”

The Grand Chapter decided to elect a Grand Visitor and Lecturer, at a salary of \$500, and three cents per mile for travelling expenses. His duties were also defined.

After this motion was carried it was discovered that it was an amendment to the constitution, and the vote was reconsidered and notice given for the next meeting.

The Grand Secretary has a very full report on correspondence, in which our proceedings for 1887 receive a good notice.

M. E. Comp. Benj. F. Watts, (Ann Arbor,) G.H.P.

R. E. Comp. Wm. P. Innes, (Grand Rapids,) G. S.

MINNESOTA.

Twenty-sixth annual convocation, St. Paul, October 11th, 1887.

R. E. Comp. W. F. Dickinson, D.G.H.P., presiding.

Forty-three Chapters out of forty-six were represented.

The Grand High Priest, M. E. Comp. John H. Brown, was absent through illness. His address was read by the Grand Secretary. The decisions reported contain some interesting points :

“*First*—That no officer of a chapter who has been either elected or appointed and *installed* into his office can resign during the term for which he was so *installed*.

This was based upon the generally recognized principle that the installation itself implies a promise on the part of the installed to serve for the term.

Second—The law of this jurisdiction in relation to the right of a companion to object to the advancement of a brother, after ballot, it seems to me. has not been so clearly stated as it might have been, and is a constant subject of inquiry. One of the principal matters of doubt seems to be as to who shall decide upon the sufficiency of an objection where grounds are given. I have undertaken to state the law upon this subject in the three following propositions, viz.:

1. An objection with or without a reason, made before any degree has been conferred, by a companion, member of the chapter, who was not present at the balloting, operates as a *black ball*.

2. After one or more degrees have been conferred without objection, then, to make it available, the objection must be accompanied by the reasons or grounds therefor ; the sufficiency of which must, in the first instance, be passed upon by the *High Priest alone*, as any other question of Masonic law must be.

3. In case the High Priest deems and determines the reasons so assigned to be frivolous and insufficient, he should overrule the objection and proceed; but if he deems them sufficient he should direct the proper measures to be taken for the ascertainment of their *truth*, which question must be determined by the chapter, after the brother objected to has been heard, or an opportunity to be heard has been given him.

It must be understood, however, that the action of the High Priest is subject to review, and in doubtful cases he may ask the advice of the Grand High Priest before ruling if he desires to do so.

Third—The imposition of money fines as punishment for the non-attendance of an officer of the chapter, or for a Masonic offense, are now generally regarded as contrary to the genius of Masonry, and should not, therefore, be practiced.”

As to the first ruling, we submit that if the constitution under which an officer is installed allows him to resign during the term for which he is elected, the “promise to serve” must be taken to be subject to the provisions of that constitution and if the “term” can be ended by such resignation, the promise is fulfilled.

The views of Comp. Brown on the government of the craft are well worthy of attentive perusal :

“ One of the grand secrets of the harmony and symmetry prevailing in Masonic bodies, and of the stability thereof, is the systematic form of government adopted therein. It covers and comprehends all forms, from the autocratic to the democratic, and selects the good points of each. In accordance with the true philosophy of government among men, it is divided into three divisions or departments—the legislative, executive, and judicial. The constitution of this Grand Chapter fully recognizes, although it does not in express terms so divide, these powers of government ; but by some oversight it has failed to put all these powers into effective operation. The legislative power of the Grand Chapter is of course exercised at its Grand Annual Convocations, and is, therefore, in full and complete operation. So much of its judicial power as is necessary to their well being is very judiciously delegated to and vested in its subordinates ; subject, however, to its own appellate jurisdiction. There is, therefore, no lack in the operation of this power. But how in regard to its executive power ? This does not seem to be vested anywhere, except, of course, in the Grand Chapter itself while in session ; which has been, on an average, about one day in a year.

So far then as its own constitution is concerned, the executive power of the Grand Chapter apparently lies dormant about three hundred and sixty-four days in each year ; and there is no one to rouse it from its lethargy. The Grand High Priest, it must be remembered, has no *prerogatives*, such as the Grand Master has ; and so far as any constitutional power to command obedience to the rules and regulations of this body, or to the ancient usages, customs and landmarks of the craft is concerned, the mandate might as well emanate from the Grand Sentinel as from the Grand High Priest.

I submit, companions, that this is not as it should be, and that a remedy should be sought.

I therefore recommend that the constitution of this Grand Chapter be amended by adding to section 3 of article IV. thereof, the words :

‘ He shall also have and may exercise all the executive power of the Grand Chapter when it is not in session, but every act done under this section shall be reported by him to the Grand Chapter at its next annual convocation thereafter, for its approval or disapproval.’

It may be that the Grand High Priest already has this power ; but if so, it is not by our constitution but by that of the General Grand Chapter ; and I am inclined to think, by a comparison of sections 11 and 29 of the latter instrument, that such a grant of power may be found. This, however, is too remote, and too circuitous a route through which to trace out the authority of an officer of this Grand Body. It ought to be found in its own constitution if it should exist at all.

The section thus amended would read as follows :

‘ Sec. 3. The Grand High Priest shall have power to fill any vacancy which may occur in the offices of the Grand Chapter, until the next annual convocation. He shall also have and may exercise all the executive power of the Grand Chapter when it is not in session ; but every act done under this section shall be reported by him to the Grand Chapter at its next annual convocation thereafter for its approval or disapproval.’ ”

The committee on jurisprudence recommended the adoption of the amendment to the constitution suggested by the Grand High Priest, and the Grand Chapter unanimously adopted the report.

The report on correspondence is by the Grand Secretary. Our proceedings for 1887 receive marked attention. He says :

“ We opine that Comp. Henry Robertson is entitled to the prefix ‘ Venerable ’ to his name, as he presents his twentieth annual report, all of which we have read—not perused, merely—but read, as we have always found something to present to our readers.”

Thanks, Comp. Pierson, but you see we started in this business rather early and we have not begun to feel very ancient yet, although signs are not wanting that we are not nearly so “ young as we used to be.”

M. E. Comp. W. F. Dickinson, (Redwood Falls,) G.H.P.
R. E. Comp. A. T. C. Pierson, (St. Paul,) G. S.

MISSISSIPPI.

Thirty-ninth annual convocation, Jackson, February 7th, 1887.

M. E. Comp. Richard P. Bowen, G.H.P.

His address is very brief. He reports harmony and a quiet and undisturbed year.

From the report of the Grand Secretary, Comp. J. L. Power, we learn that their membership has been steadily decreasing for the past fifteen years. He says :

“ There appears to be a general stagnation in Capitular Masonry in our Jurisdiction. In 1870 the Royal Craft in Mississippi numbered 2583 members in 74 working Chapters. In our last report this was reduced to 1195 members in 43 Chapters, and if the Returns to this Grand Convocation aggregate 1000 affiliated Royal Arch Masons, it will come fully up to my estimate. One fruitful cause for this steady decline is, in my opinion, the want of proper instruction in the work and lectures. Companions elected to the office of High Priest, who know that they are not qualified to open the Chapter in due form, and confer the degrees in the proper manner, have a natural reluctance to making an exhibition of their lack of Masonic knowledge, and hence are indifferent about holding regular meetings of the Chapter. We have an accomplished and zealous Grand Lecturer, and if the ways and means could be provided by the Grand Chapter or the Subordinates to compensate him for a thorough visitation and instruction of the Chapters, the good results would soon be apparant in the revival of

Capitular Masonry in Mississippi. It is hoped that something may be done and that speedily, to arrest the process of disintegration now so painfully manifested."

The Grand Chapter decided that it was not lawful to install as an officer of a Chapter, a Companion against whom charges of unmasonic conduct were pending in his Lodge.

Also, that a Companion who was suspended by his Lodge for non-payment of dues could not be granted a dimit by his Chapter.

The following was adopted :

"Whereas, The Grand Chapter recognizes the great want of ritualistic knowledge in Subordinate Chapters of this Jurisdiction, and being desirous of having the ritual communicated to all at the least practicable expense,

Therefore Resolved, That the Grand Lecturer be instructed to hold a school of instruction for the period of one week next preceeding the Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter, and at the same place said Convocation shall be held. That for his services the Grand Lecturer shall receive the sum of five dollars per day and no mileage; and that each Subordinate Chapter pay into the Treasury of the Grand Chapter the annual sum of one dollar and fifty cents to constitute the instruction fund; and that each Chapter be urgently requested to send a delegate or delegates, at their own expense, to attend said school of instruction."

The report on correspondence is by Comp. P. M. Savery. Canada for 1886 receives due notice.

M. E. Comp. Chas. T. Chamberlain, (Natchez,) G.H.P.

R. E. Comp. J. L. Power, (Jackson,) G. S.

MISSOURI.

Fortieth annual convocation, St. Louis, May 12th, 1887.

The Grand High Priest, M. E. Comp. R. F. Stevenson, delivered a very eloquent address.

A warrant was ordered to be drawn in favor of the Masonic Home of Missouri, for the sum of \$500.

The Grand Secretary reports on correspondence. In his review of Colorado, we find the following remarks on the connection of the Chapter with ancient Craft Masonry and the right of Masons to indulge in "side shows" if they please :

"The investigation and discussion by the Committee resulting in the presentation of this resolution, participated in as it was by some of the

brighest intellects to be found within the veils of our mystic temple, have, in the opinion of your Committee, resulted in the thorough, complete and authoritative vindication of the doctrine that the Chapter is a legitimate branch of Freemasonry, and that the secrets of the Holy Royal Arch are essential to the complete and thorough understanding of the teachings of our Masonic system of education.

The jurisdiction of the Grand Lodges and Grand Chapters to determine what so-called Masonic degrees are legitimate, and entitled to recognition as such, is a subject which has not yet ceased to agitate the Masonic world. Several grand bodies have assumed to exercise the jurisdiction, but their right to do so has met with vigorous denial at some points, and adverse criticism at others. In the opinion of your committee, while it is our duty to whisper good counsel in the ear of our brethren and companions, and to dispense what we conceive to be true Masonic light to our less informed brethren, yet the right of any grand body to dictate to its members concerning the organizations with which they may or may not unite, is, to say the least, questionable. If our neighbor sees fit to invest his money in a shoddy coat, there is no law by which we can prevent him from doing so, even though we may feel sure that an "all wool" garment would be a better investment. If any of our Masonic companions see fit to purchase the wares of some Masonic charlatan who peddles so-called Masonic degrees at the low rate of \$10 or \$15, we see no reason why the Grand Chapter should assume to interfere, so long as there is no pretense of vending anything upon which it has an exclusive patent. The chances are that he pays all that the article is worth even at that price, at any rate "he pays his money and he takes his choice."

Our proceedings were received.

M. E. Comp. Reuben Barney, (Chillicothe,) G.H.P.

R. E. Comp. William H. Mayo, (St. Louis,) G. S.

NEBRASKA.

Twenty-first annual convocation, Hastings, December 14th, 1887.

M. E. Comp. Ithamar T. Benjamin, G. H. P.

Twenty-nine out of thirty-nine Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest reports vigorous progress during the past year, the membership has increased and the efficiency of the work has been greatly improved. He believes that the improvement in the work and its greater uniformity is largely due to the action of the Grand Chapter in providing a Grand Lecturer. He organized four new Chapters. He commissioned R. E. Comp. J. Ross Robertson as their representative here and on the subject of grand representatives in general, he says :

"As most of the Grand Chapters have adopted the three-year rule, it

would seem better for us to keep close to this law, thereby reducing the representative system to a business basis, the same as other affairs with this Grand Chapter.

For this reason would recommend that those commissions which have not been issued since the last convocation of the General Grand Chapter be revoked ; and that representatives of other Grand Chapters near this Grand Body be not recognized, unless their commissions date since adjournment of the last General Grand Chapter.

Would seem to me that there is no better way of keeping our representatives active members of our Grand Chapters, than by revising the list at least once in three years. When I came to look over the names of those who were representing other Grand Chapters near this Grand Body, found some not residents of this state, others whom I never saw in this Grand Chapter, still others who have not been here for a number of years.

Certainly these companions were not performing the duties of their office. From this it would seem necessary that we adopt some rule so our list of representatives may be revised from time to time

Think our present plan is good, only it needs a little more legislation to make it forcible.

To the companion representatives here present with us, allow me to bid you welcome to seats in our counsels; we are of one family, of one aim and object. May the fraternal regard and sympathy now existing between us and the Grand Chapters you here represent, grow stronger with time; may brotherly love prevail, and every moral and social virtue cement us."

Comp. Benjamin recommends the abolition of all fees for affiliation and that the Chapters, in making their annual returns, should show the numbers and dates of all meetings held during the year.

On the new Grand Chapter of New Brunswick, the follow-report was adopted :

" Your committee on Foreign Correspondence, to which was referred so much of the Grand High Priest's address as relates to the Grand Chapter of New Brunswick, invites attention to that part of the general report of your committee which pertains to this Grand Chapter.

In addition, thereto, your committee reports that while it deems the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of New Brunswick to have been regular, yet the fact that two chapters within the Province have not joined with the other seven, restrains your committee from hastily recommending recognition, desiring to refrain from adding to the irritation already existing between Canadian and British Freemasons, in the hope that at no distant day brotherly love may again prevail."

It was resolved to request all Chapters to abolish the fees for affiliation.

The Grand Secretary reports on correspondence. Canada for 1887 receives a good notice.

M. E. Comp. Lucius D. Richards, (Fremont,) G.H.P.

R. E. Comp. William R. Bowen, (Omaha,) G. S.

NEVADA.

Thirteenth annual convocation. Reno. June 7th, 1886.

The Grand High Priest, M. E. Comp. Thomas A. Menary, reports harmony and an increase in membership.

The proceedings are brief and local.

Fourteenth annual convocation, Reno, June 13th, 1887.

M. E. Comp. George R. Walker, G.H.P.

He visited all the subordinate Chapters, save one, and was most kindly received.

The committee on distribution, among other things, reported as follows :

“Your Committee learns with pleasure that the Grand High Priest during his term of office, notwithstanding the inconvenience and expense, has visited nearly every Subordinate Chapter in this Grand Jurisdiction—the only exception being *Keystone, No. 6*, situated in Pioche, at a great distance from railroad facilities. The prosperous condition of the Subordinate Chapters, as well as the peace and harmony generally prevailing among the Royal Craft, reported by the Grand High Priest, is a matter of congratulation for this Grand Body.”

The following resolution was adopted :

“Whereas. Our Companion J. D. Hammond, has for nine years filled in the most acceptable and efficient manner the office of Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Nevada, and

Whereas. By a change in his business relations, Companion Hammond has been called to another and larger field of labor, compelling the Grand Chapter to choose another in his stead, be it

Resolved. That this Grand Chapter do extend a most cordial greeting to Companion Hammond, and while we regret for the sake of the Royal Arch Masonry in Nevada the change which removes him from our midst ; yet, as we learn that it is greatly to his advantage we do most cordially wish him all hail and God speed. and we do commend Companion Hammond to Royal Arch Masons wheresoever they may be met.”

Comp. John D. Hammond reports on correspondence and in his notice of our proceedings for 1886, says :

“A system of life membership was decided upon. We sincerely hope that our Canadian Companions may have more of success with life membership than we have had. To our mind, there are insuperable difficulties connected with any such general plan.”

He thinks that Masons should have separate halls, “but in small places, where the expense is onerous, no iron rule should apply.”

M. E. Comp. Robert L. Fulton, (Reno,) G.H.P.

R. E. Comp. Chauncey N. Noteware, (Carson,) G. S.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

We cordially welcome this new Grand Chapter and trust that it may have a long and useful career of uninterrupted prosperity.

A convention of delegates from Royal Arch Chapters in New Brunswick was held at St. John, March 22nd, 1887. A chairman and Secretary were appointed and then a committee on credentials, whose report was received and adopted. The following resolutions were then carried :

“Resolved, That each general vote in this Convention shall be by numbers ; and that a vote by Chapters may be called at any time, when each Chapter, by its Delegates or a majority of them, shall have one vote,” * * *

“Unanimously Resolved, That in the opinion of this Convention, it is in the best interests of Royal Arch Masonry in this Province that a Grand Royal Arch Chapter should be now erected in and for the Province of New Brunswick.”

“Unanimously Resolved, That the Chapters of Royal Arch Mason now represented in this Convention hereby declare themselves to be, and do hereby erect and establish, the Supreme and Governing Body for Royal Arch Masonry in New Brunswick by the title of “The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of New Brunswick.”

The convention then arose for the purpose of opening the Grand Chapter. After opening, the following resolutions were adopted :

“Resolved, That the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of New Brunswick consists of three Grand Principals, a Deputy Grand First Principal, the Principals of Chapters subordinate to Grand Chapter, all Past Principals of Chapters who, at the time of the erection of this Grand Chapter, are on the roll of subordinate Chapters ; and thereafter, all Past First Principals of subordinate Chapters.”

“Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed to examine and report upon the Credentials of Companions having seats as members of this Grand Royal Arch Chapter.”

“Resolved, That the Officers of this Grand Chapter be

- M. E. First Grand Principal.
- R. E. Deputy First Grand Principal.
- R. E. Second Grand Principal.
- R. E. Third Grand Principal.
- R. E. Grand Scribe E.
- R. E. Grand Scribe N.
- R. E. Grand Treasurer,

V. E. First Grand Sojourner.
 V. E. Second Grand Sojourner.
 V. E. Third Grand Sojourner.
 V. E. Grand Sword Bearer.
 V. E. Grand Standard Bearer.
 V. E. Grand Director of Ceremonies.
 V. E. Grand Organist.
 V. E. Grand Janitor.

These Officers shall be elected severally by ballot, without nomination. No Companion shall be declared elected unless he shall receive a majority of the votes cast."

The election of officers was then proceeded with, and the Grand First Principal was installed by E. Comp. John V. Ellis, after which the following, with other minor resolutions, were adopted :

"Resolved, That this Grand Chapter has authority over the Masonic Degrees of 'Mark Master,' 'Past Master,' 'Excellent Master,' 'The Royal Arch Degree,' and the Chair Degrees of the three Principals, or Installation Degrees." * * *

"Resolved, That the number and status of Subordinate Chapters, acting in the organization of this Grand Chapter, be according to seniority in date of their Charter from the Grand Chapters, respectively, under which they were first erected." * * *

"Resolved, That until the granting of new Charters, or the endorsement of the present Charters, the M. E. First Grand Principal be empowered under his sign manual, to grant authority to every Subordinate Chapter in this Province authorizing such Chapter to continue its work, and under existing By-Laws so far as possible, making returns to this Grand Chapter."

"Resolved, That until the adoption of a Constitution and General Regulations by this Grand Chapter, the government of Royal Arch Masonry in this Jurisdiction be in the control, power, and discretion of the M. E. First Grand Principal, yet subject to the general usages of Capitular Masonry ;

That the Subordinate Chapters shall continue their proceedings as at present conducted under existing regulations in each case, subject to appeal to, and the decision of, the M. E. First Principal ; and

Further Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to frame a Constitution and General Regulations, and report at the next convocation of this Grand Chapter." * * *

"Resolved, That this Grand Chapter procure the Working Ritual for conferring the Degrees as practised under the authority of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, in the United States of America ; and that a Committee on Ritual be appointed, whose duty it shall be to procure such Ritual, and to instruct the Subordinate Chapters, who may apply for the same, therein, and to report thereon at the next communication of this Grand Chapter." * * *

"Resolved, That until the adoption of Constitution, the fee to Grand Chapter for each registration and Diploma shall be Three Dollars."

“Resolved, That in the matter of Regalia, the Subordinate Chapters be allowed to continue their present Regalia until Grand Chapter otherwise order.” * * *

“Resolved, That a Finance Committee, consisting of the Grand Principals and Grand Treasurer, be appointed to negotiate a loan to meet the immediate necessary expenses of Grand Chapter, and that the same members with the Grand Scribe E. be a Committee to procure a Diploma for Grand Chapter.” * * *

“Resolved, That the Grand Principals. Deputy Grand Principal and Grand Scribe E. be authorized to take the necessary steps to secure the recognition of the Grand Chapter by the several Grand Chapters of the world; and also to notify the several Subordinate Chapters in the Province of New Brunswick of the erection of this Grand Chapter.”

It appears from the fifth resolution above, that they intend to work the Massachusetts ritual, but if so, we think that the names of the officers should be the same as they are in that State, otherwise, there may be some confusion in working the Royal Arch degree.

The next meeting will be held at St. John, on the 25th day of April, 1888.

M. E. Comp. B. Lester Peters, (St. John,) Grand First Principal.

R. E. Comp. T. Nisbet Robertson, (St. John,) Grand S.E.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Sixty-ninth annual convocation, Concord, May 17th, 1887.

M. E. Comp. John Francis Webster, G.H.P.

On the condition of the Craft, he says :

“Companions, I congratulate you on the continued prosperity of Royal Arch Masonry in our state. A large amount of work has been done during the year just closed, as will be seen by the report of the Grand Secretary. Peace and harmony have reigned throughout our jurisdiction, not one word of conflict coming from any Chapter or individual member. No question of law requiring your action has been presented. I find very little except matters of routine business for me to present in this report.”

He reports the appointment of R.E.Comp. John S. Dewar, as their representative near the Grand Chapter of Canada.

A special tax of fifteen cents was made upon each Chapter for each member thereof, to meet some deficiencies, and an amendment to raise the dues from twenty cents to thirty-five cents was laid over till the next convocation.

The report on correspondence is by Comp. Albert S. Wait. Our proceedings for 1886 receive a good notice. In his review of Colorado, we find the following :

“ If we observed rightly, it is far from the unanimous opinion of learned masons that on the foundation of a new grand masonic body it has a right to demand the submission to it of all existing subordinate bodies within its territory. We infer that such doctrine is not acceded to by our Companions of Colorado.

The subject of physical qualification then comes under discussion, and the committee holds the opinion, with their Grand Chapter, that the rule requiring physical perfection only applies to initiates, and that it does not obtain in the Chapter.

The question of affiliation in the Lodge as pre-requisite to membership in the Chapter is also alluded to, and the committee say, that, ‘ while there are a few who hold that membership in the Lodge should be held essential to membership in the Chapter, the weight of authority supports the contrary doctrine.’

We think that not only the weight of authority, but of reason also, supports the ‘ contrary doctrine.’

The power of Grand Lodges and Grand Chapters to determine what other so called masonic degrees are legitimate is also alluded to, and although not denying the power, the committee seem to think it questionable.

We have been much interested in the discussions of this report, and the observations of the committee seem to us most conservative and judicious.”

Comp. Wait holds that a degree conferred, or other work done by a Chapter in the absence of the warrant or charter, would not be void.

On the subject of lodge affiliation, he says :

“ We understand the law of our own jurisdiction to be precisely like that here said to be the law of the jurisdiction of Maine. Our Grand Chapter Constitution requires Lodge affiliation as a pre-requisite to reception of the Chapter degrees ; but we have never heard it claimed, and do not think the claim would among us be upheld, that, the Chapter degrees once received, they are lost, or that membership in the Chapter is interrupted by the discontinuance of affiliation in the Lodge.

Upon this subject we once entertained and expressed a similar impression with that here expressed by Companion Bassett ; but more mature reflection has convinced us of the justness of the law in this respect of our own jurisdiction and that of Maine. It may very properly, as it now seems to us, be required, in order to admit a brother to the Chapter degrees, that he should be a member of a Lodge ; but we do not see that it follows that, being a Royal Arch Mason in good standing, he ought to loose his privileges as such, merely by ceasing to be a member of a Lodge. Such affiliation may be lost in a variety of ways without the fault of the Companion, and

by circumstances over which he may have no control. It would not only be a hardship, but, to our thinking, a positive injustice, by reason of such a non-affiliation to deprive him of his rights as a member of the Chapter. The same reasoning which would work such a result, would deprive a Master Mason of his privileges as such, should he have the misfortune to loose any of those physical perfections which are held prerequisite to his being allowed to receive the symbolic degrees. This we suppose has never been, nor ever will be, claimed by any one as the law of masonry."

We have been fighting on the same line for some years, and it now seems that most of the learned and intelligent craftsmen are of the same opinion. There is no necessity of going over the old arguments, but there is one we wish to emphasize. It is our duty as Royal Arch Masons to encourage the Chapters and to do what we can to build them up and make them successful, at the same time, taking care to do nothing to injure the Lodges. To insist on Lodge membership as essential to a continuance of Chapter membership will certainly reduce the number of members in the Chapters, while doing no good, that we can see, to the Lodges. If a brother finds that he cannot continue to pay dues to both bodies and that there are plenty of members to do the work in his lodge, and he is of some use in the Chapter, we think he should be allowed to do his Masonic work in that body in which he takes the greatest interest, and in which he can be of the most service.

M. E. Comp. John F. Webster, (Concord,) G.H.P.

R. E. Comp. George P. Cleaves, (Concord,) G. S.

NEW JERSEY.

Thirty-first annual convocation, Trenton, May 11th, 1887.

M. E. Comp. Charles Belcher, Jr., G.H.P.

In his address, he says :

"Of late we have not increased numerically as we should—various causes have been and still are assigned for this abnormal condition.

Some of our sister jurisdictions have awakened to the fact that the Capitular degrees have been conferred with too much haste, and R. A. Masons scattered among us like chaff from a winnowing machine, and, like the chaff, of little use or benefit to us. The good is not absorbed by them, and our beautiful symbols and allegories that are intended to, and should leave a lasting impression, are confused and lost.

Too little attention is paid to suitable proficiency in preceding degrees,

and to the end of establishing that proficiency, and for the more thorough knowledge of Capitular Masonry they have adopted a series of lectures to be memorized as a qualification for advancement.

That this system must tend toward the awakening of interest, and consequent dissolution of the dormancy that has surrounded us, which has been and still is an issue of vital importance, seems to me to bear upon its face the stamp of worth and merit, and I respectfully submit to you the propriety of careful consideration of the subject.

The interchange of fraternal courtesies, visiting of Sister chapters, and the consequent more intimate acquaintance, is also a subject worthy of consideration. As Subordinate Bodies, we live too entirely within ourselves, and from lack of interchange of courtesies become hermits as it were.

Visit in bodies—numbers—we are all of one family, only covered by different roof-trees; it will not only create a greater friendly interest, but will lead in a measure to the gradual blending of customs and habits and further the desired similarity and standard of Ritual, and if properly followed will create that noble contention, or rather emulation, of who best can work and best agree. Such contention should be an objective point in every Chapter, a realization to be searched for."

The business transacted was entirely of local interest.

Canada for 1885 and 1886 receives due notice in the report on correspondence by Comp. Henry Vehslage.

M. E. Comp. Isaac C. Githens, (Camden,) G.H.P.

R. E. Comp. George B. Edwards, (Jersey City,) G. S.

Thirty-second annual convocation, Trenton, May 9th, 1888.

M. E. Comp. Isaac C. Githens, G.H.P.

Nothing has occurred to mar the peace and harmony of the Royal Craft since they last met. He reports two decisions:

"No. 1—When a Royal Arch Mason has been suspended or expelled from his Lodge, no action is necessary on the part of the Chapter. But the High Priest should, upon receiving reliable information, announce the same in open Chapter, and direct the Secretary to make due record thereof, and notify the Companion of such action.

No. 2—That the issue of duplicate dimitts is prohibited. But upon satisfactory proof of identity, and of the loss or destruction of the dimitt originally issued, being submitted to the Grand Secretary by the Chapter which issued it, he may, with the approval of the Grand High Priest, issue a certificate which will have the full force of a dimitt."

In the conclusion of his address, Comp. Githens has some excellent advice to the members :

"True Masonry, whether in the Lodge or the Chapter, depends upon Masonic labor, Masonic loyalty, and Masonic devotion and enthusiasm. This loyalty and devotion is the first lesson that should actuate us in our

labors, and those who are in earnest will accomplish the greatest work, and if their labor be accompanied by the noble desire to emulate that which is best, it follows that both teachings are fulfilled, for those who 'best work' can also 'best agree.'

That which should stimulate all Royal Arch Masons to greater emulation is faithfulness to the Chapter, by taking an active (not passive) interest in everything pertaining thereto ; to watch carefully the threshold, and suffer none to pass except those who are worthy ; to always be present, and secure the attendance of those who are indifferent, and, by your presence in the Chapter, to encourage the officers in the discharge of their duties ; to elect as officers only those who are 'tried and trusty,' and exert every influence to encourage others.

There is also a duty devolving upon the Past Officers, for they should be ready to assist in the ordinary work of the Chapter. They should clearly understand that true loyalty has no limit, as to the time of service ; for a Past High Priest is bound, by virtue of acceptance of that honorable position, to render to his successors in office all the assistance in his power, for his counsel and advice are often needed on questions that may arise at any moment. In fact, the test of loyalty and devotion of a Past High Priest only commences upon his retirement from office, and never ends until incapacitated by the infirmities of age.

That kind of Masonry is the foundation of success of our institution, which we secure by having a zealous interest in this work and a noble ambition to perform it well. I strongly recommend that the Ritual be adhered to in all its completeness, and urge that this important auxiliary be strictly carried out ; for with indifferent rendering of the Ritual it is impossible to attract the attendance of members, and without their interest in the work, the illustration of all that is beautiful in our symbols, resolves itself into a mere mass of nothingness."

The Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King and Grand Scribe also presented reports, giving the details of their visitations to the several subordinate Chapters assigned to them.

The Grand Chapter decided that a non-resident member, otherwise eligible, was not debarred from holding the office of Grand High Priest. We should think that his non-residence would be sufficient to disqualify him from holding any office and more especially that of the chief position. How can he properly perform the duties of his high office if he lives outside of the jurisdiction ? He may live in an adjoining State, but the rule is equally applicable to one living thousands of miles away and it is only necessary to state that position to show its absurdity.

We also notice, however, that an amendment to the constitution was proposed, providing that residence in the jurisdic-

tion shall be necessary to eligibility to office in the Grand Chapter, which we suppose will be carried next year.

The report on correspondence is by Comp. Henry Vehslage, and notices Canada for 1887. He thinks that our comments are brief, but he is far and away ahead of us in this respect. He evidently believes that the duties of a reporter are properly performed when he does not give any of his own opinions, and he fulfills these duties in a masterly manner.

M. E. Comp. Leonard L. Gear. (Passaic Bridge,) G.H.P.
R. E. Comp. George B. Edwards, (Jersey City,) G. S.

NEW YORK.

Ninety-first annual convocation, Albany, Feb. 7th, 1888.

M. E. Comp. Wm. Sherer, G. H. P.

The Grand High Priest opens his annual address with congratulations upon the prosperous condition of the Royal Craft throughout the State, on the harmony and good feeling prevailing and on the increasing interest evinced in the work.

Among his decisions are the following, which appear to be mainly based on sound principles :

“ ‘ Are the Proceedings of a regular Convocation of a Chapter legal and of full force and effect when the Warrant of the Chapter is not in the room nor at any time in the building during the convocation?’ ”

I answered :

‘ Yes, provided the High Priest knew that the warrant was in existence and that it was in his lawful custody. I cannot reach any other conclusion from reading Article 51 of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter. * * *

‘ When a companion has dimitted from a Chapter and retains his residence where said Chapter is located, for how long a time has he a right to visit the Chapter from which he dimitted, and has he a right to visit other Chapters, in this or other jurisdictions, and for what length of time?’ ”

To which I replied :

‘ That no Royal Arch Mason, except an officer of the Grand Chapter, in the performance of his official duty, can of right claim admittance to any Chapter of which he is not a member. The right to visit is one of courtesy, and may be granted or denied at the pleasure of the members present. This courtesy may be extended to a dimitted companion without regard to date of dimit or place of residence, providing the dimit emanates from the Chapter under the jurisdiction of, or holding fraternal relations with, the Grand Chapter of this State.’ * * *

‘Is a by-law of a Chapter constitutional which states that “a companion suspended for non-payment of dues, must, before he can be restored, pay all dues in full up to the time of his restoration.”’

I replied :

‘Such a by-law is constitutional. In case there is no by-law requiring payment of dues to date of restoration, companions can be charged with dues to date of *suspension* only.’ * * *

‘About twelve years ago a brother petitioned this Chapter for the Capitular degrees and was elected. About the time he was to have taken the degrees he became sick with a disease which partially deprived him of the use of his limbs. From this he has not recovered. He can neither stand alone nor walk, but moves around with a machine similar to a tricycle. He now desires to have the Chapter degrees conferred upon him and will present himself at our next Convocation. Can we confer the degrees on him in this condition?’

I decided as follows :

‘Physical ability to conform to the ceremonies is an absolute prerequisite to becoming a Royal Arch Mason. From your description of the condition of the brother named, I should say that he is unable to meet the requirements of the Ritual, and is consequently not eligible for the degrees of the Chapter.’ * * *

‘*First.* The Chapter through error and non-attention to the law held an election on December 27th, 1887.

‘*Second.* Discovering the mistake a dispensation was applied for to hold the election on the 10th day of January, 1888, that being the date of the regular convocation. In the request it was set forth that the utmost harmony prevailed. The request was granted and the dispensation issued.

‘*Third.* The High Priest presided at the meeting and at the election. With one or two exceptions, others than those elected on December, 27th, were elected and installed. Neither the presiding officer, nor any member present objected to the declaration of the result, or to the installation of the officers. It is true that it appears that a regular summons was not sent, but the usual Chapter notice was, and also a notice of the meeting was published in the daily paper. Now the companions who are dissatisfied with the result of the election (and among them the High Priest, who was present and presided and offered no objections to the proceedings), come forward and ask that the election be declared invalid and of no effect.

‘It seems to me that the petitioners are striving to take advantage of their own neglect to overthrow the election. This ought not, in my view, to be permitted. Chapter elections are among the most important events, and should not be set aside for any but the gravest reasons. I am of opinion that had the election of the 10th of January resulted as did that of the 27th of December, no request would have been made to set it aside.

I am, therefore, constrained to deny the petition and to declare the election of January 10th, 1888, to be legal, and the officers elected and installed on that date to be the officers of the Wellsville Chapter, No. 143, for the ensuing Masonic year.’”

As to the right of visitation, it can hardly be called a courtesy. If it is a right, it cannot be a courtesy, which means something bestowed by favor and to which the recipient is not

entitled except by favor. We take it that the privilege of visiting a Masonic body is a right to which every Mason in good standing is entitled by virtue of his membership in the fraternity. This right, however, is not an absolute one. It is liable to be controlled by the paramount necessity of preserving the harmony of the body. If objections to the admission of a visitor are made by any member, the presiding officer, in the exercise of a wise discretion, should refuse admission, not because the applicant has not a right to visit, but because this right, in that particular case, must be waived or held in abeyance, in conformity to the higher law or duty of the presiding officer to preserve the harmony of the body over which he presides. The conclusion of Comp. Sherer is correct, that the will and pleasure of the members control the admission of a visitor, but the right of visitation should not be denied arbitrarily or upon any frivolous pretext.

On their proposed Masonic asylum, Comp. Sherer says :

“ Among the notable events that have marked the history of Masonry in this State during the past year, was the grand Fair held in the Masonic Temple, in New York City, from November 27th to December 18th inclusive, for the purpose of raising funds for the establishment of a Masonic Asylum where aged and dependent Masons and the needy widows and orphans of deceased members of our Order, may receive such aid and care as their distressed circumstances demand. Through the exertions and unselfish labors of the noble band of women who originated the idea, and the untiring energy of those of the brethren who assisted in its formulation, the enterprise was conducted to complete success.

A generous and liberal spirit of appreciation was shown by the Craft and the public at large, and at the close of the Fair, the management had the pleasure of announcing that over \$75,000 had been realized in aid of the proposed undertaking. This sum will be placed at interest until sufficient additions are made thereto to warrant the erection of the building. It is confidently believed that ere another twelve months have passed, the remainder of the debt on the Temple will be extinguished. Then the income from the Temple will be devoted to the maintenance of the Asylum.

I look upon this work as one far reaching in its beneficent effects and tending to future results of great and lasting good to the Craft. It gives to us a noble and worthy cause in which to labor, that should enlist our warmest sympathies and best endeavors, inasmuch as it presents a well defined working plan to carry into practical effect the principal tenets of our profession—Charity and Brotherly Love.”

The Grand Chaplain, Comp. James Byron Murray,

delivered a learned and eloquent address on the subject of astronomy, which appears in full in the proceedings.

New Brunswick was recognized.

Canada for 1887 receives a good notice in the report on correspondence by Comp. Darius A. Ogden.

M. E. Comp. William Sherer, (Brooklyn,) G.H.P.

R. E. Comp. Christopher G. Fox, (Buffalo,) G. S.

NORTH CAROLINA.

Thirty-ninth annual convocation, Charlotte, May 24th, 1887.

M. E. Comp. Charles R. Jones, G.H.P.

Seven Chapters were represented.

From the report of the Grand Secretary we take the following :

“ I have recently corresponded with every Chapter in this Grand Jurisdiction, or had personal interviews with members thereof, urging a full attendance at this Annual Convocation, with a view to the adoption of such measures as will tend to impart new life to the Chapters and enhance the interests of Capitular Masonry.

Efforts were made, also, to revive other Chapters which had become dormant within the last few years, and I have hope of success in respect to some of them.

I have endeavored to learn the cause of inactivity on the part of some Chapters from which reports were received of irregularity in meeting and working. Some report advanced age and infirmity on the part of a majority of their members, and the failure in consequence, to secure meetings for the purpose of re-organization. In other younger Chapters no cause is alleged except want of disposition to attend the Convocations, there being no work to stimulate them. In other words, they *wait* for something to do instead of *seeking* it. Another cause, as stated in substance in a former report, is the want of an efficient working force in a number of the Chapters. My observation is that where such a force exists though small it may be, it accelerates the working of the Chapter, and produces regularity in attendance.

The importance of some measure being adopted looking to a proper system of lectures in the Chapters, commends itself to your consideration.”

On the second day, the Grand High Priest delivered his annual address, from which we make one extract :

“ As exhibited by the report of the Grand Secretary the order for the past year shows a healthy growth. North Carolinians are of a conservative character, and are slow to adapt themselves to changed conditions, and hence

while we have not exhibited the activity and advancement shown by some other Grand Jurisdictions, we have made a steady advancement toward the goal of progress, and constantly added to our members, character and influence, and extended our power for good.

Capitular Masonry stands at the head of Ancient Craft Masonry. It is the superstructure on which every thing Masonic is built. Whether it be myth or allegory—and we believe it to be true, revealing to us esoteric truths by tradition, oral and written, which cannot be successfully controverted by the masonically enlightened, whether neophyte or scholar—it carries with it the sublime truths which the Great Jehovah proclaimed to Moses when he said, quoting from Holy writ: ‘I am that I am hath sent me unto you.’

This Grand Chapter is the guardian of Capitular Masonry in North Carolina. It is the custodian of its secrets, its foster nurse, and its parent. To you, my companions, in your representative and delegated authority and capacity, is committed its purity, its vitality, its glory, its honor, and its welfare. Look well to the trust. Let us lay aside all personal ambitions, and work only for the good and welfare of Chapter Masonry in the State. Let us make the jurisdiction of North Carolina a link in the chain of Masonry which shall bind all the States and Territories in this ‘indivisible nation of indestructible States’ into a single band, one in sentiment, one in heart, one in spirit and one in devotion to the principles of our order.”

On the subject of the connection of the Capitular and Cryptic degrees, the following resolution was adopted by a vote of 24 to 5, against a strong adverse opinion of the Grand High Priest :

“*Resolved*, That the action of the Grand Chapter of North Carolina, at its annual Convocation of the year 1883, consolidating the Capitular and Cryptic degrees and merging the two systems, is hereby repealed, subject to the action of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of North Carolina, and that the last presiding officer of that Grand Body be requested to convene said Body as soon as possible, for the purpose of re-organization and taking control of the Royal and Select Masters’ Degrees as formerly.”

We regret to learn of the feeble health of Comp. James Southgate, which prevented him from completing his report on correspondence.

M. E. Comp. George H. Bell, (Bell,) G.H.P.

R. E. Comp. Donald W. Bain, (Raleigh,) G. S.

NOVA SCOTIA.

Eighteenth annual convocation, Halifax, May 31st, 1887.

M. E. Comp. Henry D. Deblois, G.H.P.

He seems to be in favor of a Grand Chapter for the Maritime Provinces in place of a separate Grand Chapter for each Province,

An amended constitution was adopted and is printed in the proceedings.

There are 12 Chapters and 517 members.

M. E. Comp. Luther B. Archibald, (Truro,) G.H.P.

R. E. Comp. Benjamin Curren, (Halifax,) G. S.

The nineteenth annual convocation was held at Halifax, June 5th, 1888.

M. E. Comp. John W. Ruhland, G.H.P.

Nine Chapters out of the twelve were represented.

The Grand High Priest reports peace and prosperity. He was not called upon for any decisions. He made a number of official visitations and found a renewed interest in some places. In his conclusion he says :

“ While Royal Arch Masonry has not made such advances with us of late years as we might have wished, yet we have no reason for despondency. There are many able and faithful workers in the jurisdiction, and I would call upon all such to make a determined personal effort all along the line during the coming year to infuse new life and vigor into the Chapters to which they belong. To do this they must necessarily take an active part in Blue Masonry, for the vigor of the tree largely depends upon the strength of its roots. Only strong personal effort will enable us to keep pace with the progress of our Country.”

They have now 519 members, an increase over last year. The new Grand Chapter of New Brunswick was recognized. The rest of the business was strictly local in character.

M. E. Comp. John W. Ruhland, (Halifax,) G.H.P.

R. E. Comp. Benjamin Curren, (Halifax,) G. S.

OHIO.

Seventieth Annual Convocation, Toledo, Oct. 7th, 1886.

M. E. Comp. J. L'H Long, G. H. P.

One of his visitations was to the Chapter of Bellevue, where E. Comp. R. A. Severance, on his eighty-third birthday, was installed for the seventeenth time, High Priest of that Chapter. Comp. Severance is the oldest presiding officer of a Masonic Body mentioned in the annals of Masonry.

Two new Chapters were organized.

The decisions of the Grand High Priest contain some novel and important points and they are all, in our opinion, just and proper :

“ 1st. Decided : That in the election of officers the Chapter cannot by resolution authorize the Secretary to cast the entire vote of the Chapter for any office.

2nd. A brother having received the Mark and Past Master's degrees in a Chapter which surrendered its charter before the M. E. and R. A. degrees were conferred upon him, and being desirous of receiving those degrees in another Chapter within whose jurisdiction he now resides, Held : That any Chapter to which he afterward applies, being within its jurisdiction may, upon being satisfied by examination and receiving the certificate of the Grand Secretary that the applicant had regularly received the preceeding degrees in a duly constituted Chapter, which Chapter had ceased to exist, receive the application and confer the degrees upon the applicant without violating any regulation of this or of the General Grand Chapter.

3rd. A Companion under suspension for non-payment of dues has charges presented against him of unmasonic conduct, amounting to embezzlement of Chapter funds. Question : How can he appear in Chapter to answer to the charge ? Answer: The suspension is an order of the Chapter which it has the power at any time to recall or modify : The order to appear and answer to the charge is a modification of the order of suspension necessary to be made in order that the companion may be heard in his own defense, to the end that he may have justice.

4th. The fee of a petition for degrees does not become the property of the Chapter until a clear ballot has been had upon his application, and he becomes entitled to receive the degrees for which the fee is deposited.

5th. Under Rule 23, the fact that a member of Chapter has dimitted from his lodge does not render him ineligible to the office of High Priest.

6th. A Companion, a member of the recommending Chapter, signs the petition after the same has been presented to his Chapter for its consent; a Charter is granted by the Grand Chapter and this Companion is made one of the charter members. Held : First, that this was an irregularity which was cured by the action of the Grand Chapter in making him a charter member, which admitted him from the recommending Chapter ; and Second, that the action of the Grand Chapter in granting the charter was of such a public nature as regards its subordinate, that each subordinate Chapter is bound to take notice of such action.

7th. The ballot being passed in a lodge of M. E. M. upon the application of a brother for that degree, two brethren present who were M. E. Masters only, took part in the ballot ; the candidate was rejected. Held : First, that none but Royal Arch Masons, who were members of the Chapter had the right to participate in the ballot ; and Second, that the vote was void and the ballot must be passed again.

8th. To the question : ‘ A Royal Arch Mason of another Chapter having been elected an honorary member of my Chapter, can I object to his sitting in the body of which I am an active member ? ’ I answered : There are no provisions in the legislation of the Grand Chapter by which we may be guided in fixing the rights of honorary members of Chapters,

and we are therefore relegated to the general customs governing honorary memberships in other bodies and societies. Under such general customs an honorary member of any body, while he is not required to contribute to the expenses of that body, is entitled to all the privileges which accrue to other members of that body by reason of his membership, including the right to sit in the Chapter, and no member of a Chapter can by this action prevent another member, who is in good standing, from sitting in the Chapter. The whole system of honorary membership is a matter of courtesy on the part of the member who has been thus honored and requires that he should exercise no right which might not with propriety be exercised by any honored guest.

9th. In the absence of any specific provisions requiring more, the action of a majority of a Chapter properly taken, is the action of the Chapter. It follows that a majority may grant consent and recommend the granting of a dispensation for a new Charter.

10th. Charges having been preferred against a Companion and he duly notified to appear and answer; the accused becomes insane before the time of the trial. Held: That the trial could not be had until the accused Companion was restored to reason."

The former action of the Grand Chapter in recognizing the Grand Mark Lodge of England was rescinded.

The sum of \$200 was sent to the sufferers in Galveston, Texas, and an equal sum to the brethren in Charleston.

Comp. Graff M. Acklin presented a very creditable report on correspondence. Canada does not appear.

We regret to learn of the severe illness of the former Grand Secretary, Comp. James Nesbitt, who was thereby incapacitated from continuing in his position.

M. E. Comp. J. L'H Long, (Ottawa,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. Emmet V. Rhoads, (St. Paris,) G. S.

OREGON.

Twenty-seventh annual convocation, Portland, June 13th, 1887.

M. E. Comp. Wallace Baldwin, G.H.P.

His remarks on ritual are interesting:

"I deem it of the greatest importance for the best interests of the craft in this jurisdiction that some action be taken at this convocation of the Grand Chapter in regard to teaching the adopted work to subordinate Chapters.

Only a part of the Chapters have ever had any instructions in the ritual, and many none. The result is anything but uniformity. The exact ritual should be exemplified in Grand Chapter, and a rigid adherence to it insisted upon.

The General Grand Chapter has adopted a ritual covering the essentials only, and recommend its use by all Grand Chapters owning allegiance to that body. A copy of this ritual has been furnished me, officially, by the General Grand High Priest, and I herewith submit it for your examination and consideration.

At present there are several different rituals used in our jurisdiction, of the merits of any or all of them I do not pretend to judge. It makes but little difference which one is used, so long as the essentials are preserved, and all are required to learn the same and practice it. I trust such action will be taken as shall insure uniformity, and set at rest forever the question of what is and what is not by authority of the Grand Chapter."

A special committee on ritual was appointed, who reported as follows :

"We, your committee to whom was referred that portion of the Grand High Priest's address relating to uniformity of work, would respectfully report that we find this Grand Chapter adopted and promulgated a work during the session of 1875.

We further find that there is quite a difference in the ritual as practised by the subordinate Chapters throughout the jurisdiction.

We would therefore recommend that this Grand Chapter take such action as will tend to a uniformity of ritual, and would therefore suggest that the ritual of the General Grand Chapter referred to us be exemplified in due form in open Grand Chapter, in order that the members may intelligently pass upon its merits."

This report was laid on the table, and does not appear to have been taken thence or any further action had.

The sum of \$100 was voted to their first Grand High Priest, Comp. A. W. Ferguson, then lying very sick at his home in Astoria.

The report on correspondence is again by our esteemed friend and companion Thomas McF. Patton. He has suffered a severe loss in the death of his wife and we tender to him our heartfelt sympathy.

Canada for 1886 receives a good notice.

M. E. Comp. R. F. Gibbons, (The Dalles,) G.H.P.

R. E. Comp. R. P. Earhart, (Salem,) G.S.

PENNSYLVANIA.

At a quarterly communication, held on June 3rd, 1886, it was resolved that all Mark Master Masons be required to adopt and record their marks with the Secretary of their Lodge or

Chapter within four months from the date of receiving the Mark degree.

On December 2nd, 1886, it was resolved that the petition of a candidate, who has once been rejected, cannot, upon any subsequent application, be withdrawn.

The annual communication was held at Philadelphia, December 27th, 1886.

M. E. Comp. George W. Kendrick, Jr., G.H.P.

He instituted a new Chapter at Gettysburg, and made thirty-one grand visitations during the year, in each of which at least one of the degrees was exemplified. He also says :

“Our visitations have been freighted with naught but the most pleasing memorials of fraternal greetings. Let this work be continued and encouraged, it will ever redound to the credit of the craft.

The uniformity of the work in the subordinate bodies is to be commended; it has gradually from time to time, through the supervision of the Grand Officers, become almost faultless.

The reports upon the minutes, made by our Grand Secretary, show an earnest endeavor to conform to the formula and requirements of the law, And, by wise action of this Grand Body during the present year, compelling the recording of marks, we have to-day, almost a perfect record of marks.

Our finances are in a most healthy condition, each year showing an improvement over the preceding one. This year is specially marked by an increase in our membership, proving activity, zeal and general regard for our prosperity by the craft.

No discordant elements have manifested themselves; no grievances have been presented; harmony and goodwill prevail all along the line.”

The newly elected Grand High Priest also delivered an address, in which we find the following interesting remarks on the Past Master's degree. We have no doubt but that this degree, if it can be so called, belongs solely to the Lodge, and and should not form any part of the work of the Chapter :

“As I am just entering upon the administration of the affairs of this office, I have no record of duties done to submit to your consideration, but I desire to call your attention in a few plain words to some points in regard to the working of subordinate Chapters which have at various times come under my observation. Our Chapters are sometimes applied to for the degrees by brethren who are members of Lodges in other jurisdictions. Some of these applications—and the word application in this sense does not mean petition—are to frontier Chapters by brethren residing across the line, who are nearer the Pennsylvania Chapter than they are to one in their own

jurisdiction ; the remainder are from brethren residing in our own territory. The obstacle to the reception of these petitions is, that the applicants have not passed the chair. We call it ' Passing the Chair,' while our contemporaries call it the ' Past Master's Degree,' and for the purposes of this address we will adopt that form of expression. In Pennsylvania this is done in the Lodge. In all the other jurisdictions of this country it is conferred in the Chapter, except in the comparatively few instances where it is given to the elected Worshipful Master of a symbolic Lodge. Our Constitution, in section 107, says that an applicant for the degrees must be a ' Past Master either by election or dispensation.' The case of an applicant who holds membership in a foreign Lodge is therefore governed by three different conditions as follows :

First. If he is not a Past Master he cannot present a petition.

Second. If he is a Past Master and resides within our jurisdiction he can present a petition.

Third. If he is a Past Master residing outside of our jurisdiction, the consent of his own Grand High Priest must be obtained in the usual manner before he can present a petition.

The remedy for those who are not Past Masters is to withdraw from their Lodge, unite with a Pennsylvania Lodge and pass the chair by dispensation, when they will be qualified to make application to the Chapter. It is to be regretted that uniformity of usage regarding the Past Master's Degree cannot be established, and as this is the principal point of difference between the other American Grand Chapters and ourselves, for which we have been mildly referred to as ' conservative,' ' old fogy,' and our position alluded to as an isolated one, it may be well to contemplate the subject and ascertain to what extent our practice is supported by common sense and ancient usage and custom. I have taken pains to examine authorities and find that some very eminent ones express views inconsistent with the practice of their respective Grand Chapters. A well known author of New York says :

' In point of fact, the degree of Past Master is out of place in the Chapter, and has no right there. It belongs to the Blue Lodge. *'

* * In the Chapter it has no significance nor pertinence whatever—it is simply an act without meaning, and mars greatly the beauty of ' Royal Arch Masonry.'

A distinguished Masonic writer of the District of Columbia, says that originally it was always conferred in Lodges, and that the ' jurisdiction over it by Chapters is altogether an assumed one.'

An English author in a letter to Grand High Priest Meyer, dated October 1st, 1872, and published in our proceedings of that year, says :

' It seems to have been the custom (in fact was) of the Grand Lodge according to the old Constitutions (called the Ancients') to confer the Past Master's Degree in a Craft Lodge to candidates for Royal Arch Masonry,' which is precisely what we in Pennsylvania do to-day. In another part of the same letter he says :

' Until recently, in Scotland the system of Capitular Free Masonry prevailing in the United States was adopted, but at the Grand Lodge held the 5th of February last, it was decided to return to the old English system and hence the Grand Chapter of Scotland has retired from the control of the Past Master's Degree, and left it entirely in the hands of the Grand Lodge.'

I regret that I have not space to quote this letter in full, and would refer those to it who desire to pursue the subject further. Its whole tenor is that the degree originated in the Lodge, that it was designed for the use of the Lodge, and that it is out of place anywhere else. I might multiply quotations and enlarge upon them, but enough has been said to show that the practice of conferring the degree in Chapters is a modern innovation and that our Grand Chapter is the only one in this country that has observed that time honored precept which admonishes us to reject all attempts to improve Free Masonry and to adhere strictly to ancient usage, custom and landmark. The name, Past Master, signifies that it is an honorary distinction given to a brother who has passed through the office of Master, and as Lodges are the only Masonic bodies governed by Masters, a sensible view of the matter would indicate that it should be given to the brother entitled to it by the body in which he has attained the distinction, and why it should be conferred by any other authority, or how two different bodies can consistently exercise jurisdiction over the same degree is something which our friends have never explained."

The report on correspondence is by Comp. Samuel Harper, and we cannot too highly commend his views on the importance of Masons being something more than mere ritualists. It is only by study and thought that the true beauties of our fraternity are brought out, and if our Companions would devote more time to the investigation of our history and symbolism, they would find themselves amply repaid.

"The ambition amongst Masons is confined too generally to acquiring a knowledge of the phraseology of the ritual, and the brother who rehearses ritual in the most fluent and dramatic manner is popularly believed to be the most accomplished Mason. The brother who reads the literature of the craft, and devotes his time to study and reflection, and who is able to discourse upon the history, morals and philosophy of Masonry, to a very large extent 'wastes his sweetness on the desert air.' If a choice in any matter were confined to a representative of each of these two classes, the ritualists would command a large majority. This should not be. We do not depreciate the importance of a thorough knowledge of the language of ritual, nor of the ability to render the ritual impressively ; but we urge that Masonic ambition should not stop there. It is of infinite importance that the meaning of the language should be deeply studied that the morals and philosophy of the Craft may be thoroughly comprehended. To enable the student to do this he must read, and read carefully and constantly. The more reading Masons we have, the more we will have, and the higher will the standard of Masonic intelligence become. With an increase of readers and in the discrimination of those who read, those of us who write will be encouraged to greater effort, and the character of that which is written will in time be greatly improved."

Canada for 1886 receives a very fraternal notice.

M. E. Comp. Matthias H. Henderson, (Sharon,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. Charles E. Meyer, (Philadelphia,) G. S.

The Annual Convocation was held at Philadelphia, on the 27th December, 1887.

The Grand High Priest, M. E. Comp. Matthias H. Henderson, reports harmony prevailing and fraternal intercourse with other jurisdictions, however they may differ in their methods and practices. On the subject of waiving jurisdiction he says :

“I have been requested by the Grand High Priests of New Jersey and New York to permit a number of Master Masons resident in Pennsylvania to present petitions for the degrees to Chapters in their Jurisdictions. These requests have all been granted except when the brethren were members of Pennsylvania Lodges, in which case permission was withheld until they had passed the chair in their own lodges. While we are willing to exchange the usual courtesies with other jurisdictions when we can consistently do so, we do not wish our own members to go from us to be made Royal Arch Masons unless they possess all the qualifications which our Constitution and regulations require them to have before they can apply to one of our own Chapters.”

This means, we suppose, that the Past Master's Degree of New York and New Jersey is not considered in Pennsylvania as equivalent to their ceremony of ‘Passing the Chair.’ We would like to be informed wherein the difference consists. All the Royal Arch Masons in Pennsylvania have certainly not been actual Masters of Lodges and they have been exalted to the Royal Arch Degree after having gone through some ceremony called ‘Passing the Chair.’ If this is not conferring the Past Master's Degree, what is it? Probably the only difference is that the degree is conferred in Pennsylvania under the authority of the Grand Lodge.

The reported decisions are sound :—

“*First.*—That a brother who has lost the thumb and all the fingers of his right hand cannot receive the Capitular degrees.

“*Second.*—That the recommenders of a petition for exaltation and membership must be Royal Arch Masons. Section 108 of the Constitution says that they shall be members of the Chapter, and when the question was raised that under this Section a Mark Master or Most Excellent Master Mason could be recommenders, I made a decision which I have no doubt was in accordance with the intention of the framers of the Constitution. It would not be in reason to permit a brother to recommend another to receive a degree to which he had not attained himself.”

The Grand High Priest recommends the adoption of a rule that any brother who neglects to record his mark should be suspended until he does so,

On black-balling, he says :

“ During the year it came to my knowledge that after a candidate for exaltation and membership had been rejected in one of our Chapters, a member of the Chapter who was a friend of the rejected applicant openly made the statement that it would ‘ be a long time before any one else received the Degrees in that Chapter.’ Upon being apprised of the facts I directed the District Deputy Grand High Priest in charge to visit the Chapter and if the facts were found to be as reported, to instruct the Chapter to prefer charges against the Companion for unmasonic conduct, and if a fair and impartial trial sustained the charges, to expel him. He did so, and the proceedings are at present under way.

When a Companion so far forgets his manhood and his Masonic obligations as to stoop to wholesale blackballing for no better motive than revenge it is time he was made to understand that he cannot vent his spleen in any such unbridled manner, and that Freemasonry has a method by which she can purge herself of all such disturbers of her peace and harmony. It does not require a vivid imagination to picture the future of a Chapter afflicted with such an incubus. Its members would dissuade applicants rather than see them sacrificed. If they attended the meetings it would be with the feeling that a cloud was hanging over them and a weight oppressing them which they were powerless to rid themselves of, and which constantly stood in the way of their Chapter’s progress and usefulness. It would be so little pleasure to meet under such circumstances, that it would not be strange if the attendance should fall off and the members wander a way to other Chapters, until finally the remnant that is left, disheartened and discouraged surrenders the warrant and puts an end to what had become a miserable existence.”

His conclusion is excellent :

“ After the Constitution ; the Proceedings which are annually published are valuable aids to the acquisition of this information. The reports of the Committees on Appeals and Foreign Correspondence are most interesting and instructive reading. Written as they are, by Companions selected in each jurisdiction for their Masonic learning; they are expositions of the most advanced opinions from the brightest Masonic thinkers of the world. The fact that we do not agree with everything advanced in these reports only makes them the more attractive. That which every one knows and believes is not worth telling, and it is the man who advances new ideas and provokes discussion thereon, that commands the attention of the world. A vast field is open to him who will begin the study of Masonic law ; and instead of being dry, tiresome reading, the student will be astonished to find how interested he becomes. One subject leads to another, and partial knowledge will induce further research, until at last he views in amazement and admiration, the beautiful system which has been revealed to him. In every affair of life, that which we understand the best gives us the most pleasure in its execution, while the practice of that of which we have no proper understanding or appreciation is irksome and disagreeable. If officers were able to explain what they do when asked to do so, and give reasons for the faith which is in them, their duties would be more pleasant to themselves, and their Chapters and the Craft at large would be in every way gainers. For the purpose of dispensing this information, the Grand Chapter prints and distributes at considerable expense its annual proceedings ; but how often its good

intentions are frustrated by the receiving Chapter tossing them into a corner, where they lie unread and neglected until soiled and torn, when they are destroyed as waste paper. A physician must acquaint himself with every new discovery in medical science, or he soon becomes a fossil, and loses his position in the ranks of his profession. An attorney preserves with religious care the reports of the Supreme Court and copies of every new law enacted, which he keeps by his side for constant reference, for only by these is he enabled to keep abreast of the times, and these men could as well practice their professions successfully without these volumes as a set of officers could manage a Chapter without the law and decisions of the Grand Chapter to refer to. I would advise every Chapter to preserve at least one copy of each year's proceedings as published, and have them bound for preservation and convenience of reference. In many cases these volumes will form the nucleus of a library which will gradually be gathered, and which will contribute to the pleasure and profit of the members.

And now, my Companions, in closing let me remind you of the importance which the Chapter is to the Masonic system ; let me admonish you not to neglect or forget it, but support it, foster it, cherish and honor it as it deserves. The proudest title you can wear is that of a Freemason, and remember that all there is of ancient Masonry is contained in the Lodge and Chapter. and that it is not in the power of man to add to or take from it. Do not be captivated by those bodies which though attached to Freemasonry are not a part of it. Though they may be good in themselves, they should be held secondary to the great fraternity which has given them birth. There is a tendency in some quarters to belittle Freemasonry, and make it a handle by which to hold other degrees, and it is the duty of those in high places to utter a word of warning, lest the unthinking be led away to forget her who had their earliest love, and who is still entitled to it, as well as to their homage and respect."

We also copy a capital historical sketch by Comp. Charles E. Meyer, Grand Secretary :

"The Royal Arch degree was first introduced (as far as is at present known) in the United States, in Royal Arch Lodge, No. 3, meeting under authority from the Grand Lodge of England, according to the old institution, better known as the Ancients, or Seceders, also as the Grand Lodge of Four Degrees. Tradition asserts the time as 1758, but the minutes still extant begin in 1767, and speak of the minutes of the preceeding meeting being read and adopted.

This Royal Arch Lodge became, in course of time, Jerusalem Chapter, No. 3, and the minutes are complete from 1767 to the present time, making Jerusalem Chapter, No. 3, the oldest Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in the world.

The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania was organized under authority from the R. W. Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania, in November, 1795. and its minutes are complete and distinct from that time, thus making the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania the oldest Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in America.

The degree of a Past Master, or, as is known in Pennsylvania, 'the passing to the chair,' was always a prerequisite to advancement to the Royal Arch Degree ; a brother having passed the chair, became a 'Geometric Master Mason,' and was entitled to advancement in Freemasonry.

It has always been, in Pennsylvania, conferred under authority of the R. W. Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

The degree of a Mark Master Mason was conferred at an early date in the present century by unauthorized parties. Attempts were made on several occasions by the General Grand Chapter of the United States, organized two years later than this Grand Chapter, by Thomas Smith Webb, who received the Royal Arch degree in Harmony Chapter in Philadelphia towards the latter part of the last century; but the Grand Lodge, exercising its undoubted right to the control of the higher degrees, placed its disapproval on the same, and they were abandoned.

In 1824 the Grand Chapter became independent of the Grand Lodge, and, as a sovereign body, issued warrants (former meetings of the Chapter being held under the Blue Lodge warrant) to the Chapters then in existence, with authority to confer the degree of a Mark Master Mason, a Most Excellent Master Mason and a Royal Arch Mason. The Grand Chapter also authorized the opening of Lodges of Mark Master Masons, a number being so organized but three are now at work—Columbia, No. 91, Girard, No. 214; Excelsior, No. 216—a warrant was also issued for a Lodge of Most Excellent Masters, but it was never organized.

The Order of the High Priesthood is conferred in subordinate Chapters on the High Priest elect, and without the order being conferred at the time he cannot be installed as High Priest.

The Grand Chapter is composed of the High Priests, Kings, and Scribes of subordinate Chapters, Past High Priests of one year's service in this jurisdiction and the Worshipful Masters of Lodges of Master Masons who served as such and were Royal Arch Masons prior to December 27, 1871."

Canada for 1887 is reviewed in the report on correspondence by Comp. Samuel Harper.

M. E. Comp. M. H. Henderson, (Sharon,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. Charles E. Meyer, (Philadelphia,) G. S.

QUEBEC.

Eleventh annual convocation, Montreal, January 24th, 1888.

R. E. Comp. Will H. Whyte, presiding as Grand Z.

The Grand Z., M. E. Comp. Edson Fitch, was unavoidably absent, having been unexpectedly called away to England. His address was read by Comp. Whyte. Peace and harmony have prevailed among all the subordinate Chapters. Local strife has disappeared completely and the membership has increased.

We are very glad to notice that there is a prospect of an amicable settlement of the matters in dispute with England :

“Our relations with the Grand Chapter and Grand Mark Lodge of England remain in the precise position which they occupied twelve months ago, when I assumed the functions of office. No official communications have passed between us, but I am glad, however, to say that I have reasons for believing that a harmonious solution of the difficulty will be found at a not very remote period. The Companions are so familiar with the causes of the trouble between the Grand Chapter of Quebec, and the Grand Chapter of England and the Grand Mark Lodge of England, which have disturbed our peaceful relations, that it will not be necessary for me to recapitulate them here. The legal aspects of the situation have also been laid before you from time to time. All who have the best interests of our order at heart must wish to see a speedy and agreeable ending of a matter which has proved so vexatious and trying. It is hoped, and confidently expected, that at our Twelfth Annual Convocation, the Grand Z. will be in a position to announce to you the pleasing fact, that our troubles with the Grand Chapter of England and the Grand Mark Lodge of England are over.”

On this subject, the committee on the address reported as follows :

“Your committee are highly gratified that the Grand Z. is enabled to express the hope of an early, peaceful and constitutional adjustment of the unhappy differences existing between this Grand Chapter and the Grand Chapter and Grand Mark Lodge of England and the constituent bodies thereunder, within this Grand Jurisdiction ; and this Grand Chapter would hail with the greatest satisfaction the establishment of interjurisdictional peace, union and harmony in accordance with right, and the honor of all concerned.”

There were no appeals or grievances.

New Brunswick was recognized.

We regret to hear of the severe illness of R. E. Comp. Thomas Milton, who is well known to the Companions in Ontario. The Grand Chapter passed a resolution of sympathy:

“That this Grand Chapter has heard with regret the statement of M. E. Comp. Graham, P. G. Z., of the serious illness of R. E. Comp. Thomas Milton, one of the fathers of Royal Arch Masonry in this city and Province, and that the Grand Superintendent of Montreal District, and the First Principals of the Montreal Chapters, be and are hereby appointed a deputation from this Grand Chapter to convey to R. E. Comp. Milton the salutations of the Companions, and to express their deep sympathy for him in his indisposition.”

There is no disposition at present to adopt the United States ritual, the following report having been adopted :

“The special committee on Ritual having had the important work entrusted to them under consideration, report :

That with the exception of Golden Rule Chapter, (which Chapter carries on its work according to the Ritual adopted by the General Grand Chapter of the United States) the Chapters in this jurisdiction continue to work according to the Ritual adopted generally by the Chapters in this Province previous to the formation of this Grand Chapter, and as worked by the Grand Chapter of Canada, and as adopted by this Grand Chapter.

That the committee recommed that Golden Rule Chapter be permitted to continue their present Ritual on observing uniformity of work with the other Chapters in this jurisdiction in all essential matters, viz : signs, words, and tokens, and the titles of all the officers.

That Golden Rule Chapter takes steps, at the earliest possible time, to secure uniformity of work, in all particulars, with the other Chapters working under this Grand Chapter.”

The report on correspondence is by Companions C. A. Humphrey and E. T. D. Chambers, and includes Canada for 1887.

M. E. Comp. Will H. Whyte, (Montreal,) Grand Z.

R. E. Comp. Joseph Mitchell, (Montreal,) G.S.E.

RHODE ISLAND.

Eighty-ninth annual convocation, March 8th, 1887.

M. E. Comp. Rev. Henry W. Rugg, G.H.P.

He reports the Chapters in a generally prosperous condition, but thinks that there should be more interest felt and a higher line of advancement reached. He gives the brethren the following good advice :

“Brethren, the young and ambitious especially, are apt to under-estimate the Chapter, regarding it as a sort of halting place between the Lodge and Commandry, and deeming it hardly worthy of being sustained for its own sake. This is a feeling to be resisted ; a mistake to be corrected as far as possible. Let it be felt and taught that the Chapter exists to preserve and express some of the best things in Freemasonry, and that in many respects it is not excelled by any branch of the Masonic system. Not to speak of its attractive ceremonies, its rich symbolism, and its sublime teachings of special significance, we may yet consider that it contains a part of fundamental Freemasonry, and as such the Craft should uphold and sustain it. No organization will thrive and become productive unless watched over and cared for by an unceasing vigilance. If we desire Capitular Masonry to become more of a power in this jurisdiction than it now is, we must be more attentive to its needs and more devoted to its interests. Then, with the Divine blessing attending our efforts, we shall augment both the influence and the productiveness of this branch of our cherished Institution.”

On the Quebec question, the following special report of the committee on correspondence was adopted :

“The Grand Chapter of Quebec was instituted December 12, 1876, there being at that time in the Province seven Chapters allegiant to the Grand Chapter of Canada, and at least one in the obedience of the Grand Chapter of England. It is claimed, however, that this Chapter in 1863 surrendered its charter, but it does not so appear by the statement of its officers, or the officers of the Grand Chapter of England, which body still claims the allegiance of that Chapter. This Grand Chapter has no official relations with the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales, and therefore the claim of that Body (if it has any) to jurisdiction within that of the Grand Chapter of Quebec need not be considered by us.

The point at issue is whether the Grand Chapter of England had of right any jurisdiction in the Province of Quebec after the formation of a Grand Chapter there. If it were a fact that the English Chapter referred to had surrendered its charter, as is claimed by one side, then it became extinct, and could not be revived by itself or by its parent after the establishment of the Grand Chapter of Quebec, in which alone was vested such power. But it is claimed by the other side that it never surrendered its charter, and though for a time dormant, it is and ever has been a living body owing allegiance to the Grand Chapter of England. This is an unfortunate state of things, and not at all to the advantage of Capitular Masonry in the Province; yet in the opinion of your Committee it is one which had better be left to the Companions of the Province to settle, and will probably in time adjust itself. Such difficulties have before occurred in consequence of the establishment of new Grand Bodies, and time has healed them, as it will doubtless this, unless prevented by outside interference. It cannot be claimed that Chapters holding under Grand Chapter of England are irregular,—its authority is undisputed; neither can it be said that the Chapters forming the Grand Chapter of Quebec acted wrongfully when they formed it.

The Committee fully believe in the American principle of exclusive jurisdiction, yet that principle should be judiciously applied, and not at a moment's notice in an offensive or despotic way.

It is stated that the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons above referred to has established so-called Mark Lodges in the Province of Quebec. Of course, Mark Masters made in such Bodies could not be recognized by us. It is stated also that the claim is set up that the Grand Chapter of Quebec was not legally established. That claim is without foundation. The Grand Chapter of Quebec was established, as before stated, in 1876 and received immediate recognition from Grand Chapter of Canada, and, January 22, 1878, was recognized by Grand Chapter of Rhode Island, and has received the recognition of nearly or quite all Grand Chapters.

The Committee express the hope that the Grand Chapter of Quebec will soon have full jurisdiction over the territory within which it is established, but think no action is required on the part of this Grand Chapter.”

After the usual routine business had been transacted the convocation closed, and the members of Grand Chapter dined together, “as usual.”

M. E. Comp. Hon. George M. Carpenter, (Providence,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. William R. Greene, (Providence,) G. S.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

Seventy-sixth annual convocation, Charleston, February 15th, 1887.

M. E. Comp. J. E. Breazeale, G.H.P.

He is sorry to say that there has not been an active interest manifested in the Chapters generally, but there are some notable exceptions. On the earthquake at Charleston, he says :

“ Since our last annual convocation our Companions in our beloved City by the Sea, in which we are to-day assembled, have suffered seriously from the conflict of seismic forces, producing the severest shocks of earthquake ever felt in this country.

On the night of the 31st of August last the earth underwent such convulsions as caused the houses of the city to shake and quiver on their foundations—some were thrown over and almost all badly injured.

We are indebted to the beneficence of an ever-superintending Providence that, amid the ruin wrought by the irresistible conflicting forces of nature, the lives of our Companions and of their families have been spared, and they are to-day earnestly trying to repair their injured homes and fortunes.

“ Though boats go down, men build anew,
Whatever winds may blow ;
If blight be in the wheat one year
We trust again and sow
Though grief comes and changes
The sunshine into snow.”

With this commendable spirit, with thankfulness to the Great High Priest above that their lives have been spared, and with an abiding trust in His great mercies, our Companions have resumed their usual labors.

In their hour of distress it was, indeed, consoling and encouraging to receive substantial tokens of sympathy from abroad.”

The business transacted was entirely local and calls for no special comment.

There is no report on correspondence.

M. E. Comp. W. T. Branch, (Abbeville,) G.H.P.

R. E. Comp. J. E. Burke, (Charleston,) G. S.

Seventy-seventh annual convocation, Charleston, February 14th, 1888.

M. E. Comp. W. T. Branch, G.H.P.

The Grand High Priest presented a brief report. The Order is not prospering and he recommends more liberality to the subordinates, in returning forfeited charters without charge,

&c. He was not called upon for any decisions and harmony prevails. He gives a letter from Comp. W. L. M. Bergen, from which we quote as follows :

“Since I had the last extreme pleasure of meeting my friends and companions in Charleston, a long time ago, (it seems to me an age) I have seen a great deal of the world, and have traveled considerably in Europe, including France, Spain, Italy, Portugal, Sicily, Tripoli, Morrocco and Africa, nearly to the Desert, and must say that I was always received with great kindness whenever I made myself known as a Mason.

The first Lodge I visited was in the city of Algiers, Africa, called ‘Belesarius.’ The Lodge was called up and I was given the seat of honor by the Master, as an honored guest from America.

It was indeed a strange sight to me to see so many nations and costumes together in one room, in their native dress. There were Arabs, Turks, Moors, Jews, Greeks, Americans and Italians, all in their picturesque costumes. It was a sight to behold, particularly to a stranger. I visited the Lodge a great many times and was always well received, but in a place like Algiers one meets all kinds of people and dress, and where one meets all kinds and colors of people, from the fair Caucasian to the African of the darkest hue.

While in Africa I had two distinct strokes of paralysis, one of which disabled my right side so that it is with pain and fatigue I can write at all, and the other affecting my tongue so that at times it is quite difficult for me to be understood while speaking. I think I am improving somewhat, and after awhile I shall be much better.

The cause of my affliction was the extreme heat of the deadly ‘Sirocco.’ When I was first taken, my doctor told me that he had fifteen cases that day from the same cause. The size of the ‘Sirocco’ that struck me was of unusual length, lasting at that time five days and nights, a thing quite unusual, as they seldom last more than two or three days. It was a very sore affliction for me, as I was always a rapid and very penman, and one familiar with several languages, so you see that I am almost completely disabled, but I am in hopes still of a partial if not a final recovery before long.”

New Brunswick was recognized.

The rest of the business is entirely local.

The committee on the address reported in part as follows :

“They have carefully read the same, and note with regret the retrograde movement of Capitular Masonry within this Grand Jurisdiction, as referred to in said address, and heartily endorse the recommendation therein contained looking to the resuscitation of dormant Chapters and giving to them all the aid in our power to bring about their revival, recognizing the fact, that by such course on our part the Grand Chapter would have nothing to lose, but on the contrary, everything to gain—but, while they approve of this liberal course in building up and strengthening weak and dormant Chapters, they would recommend that the privilege be granted only by regular Dispensations, after application is made in due form.”

We are glad to notice that our Grand Lodge representative, R. E. Comp. A. Doty, was elevated to the position of Grand King.

The incoming Grand High Priest pledged his best efforts to promote the welfare of Capitular Masonry in the State.

M. E. Comp. Morris Clarke, (Marion,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. J. E. Burke, (Charleston,) G. S.

VERMONT.

Seventieth annual convocation, Burlington, June 17th, 1887.

M. E. Comp. Kittredge Haskins, G. H. P., reports the following decision :

“Statement : A Companion has been exalted in a Royal Arch Chapter, is borne upon its rolls as a member thereof, has regularly been returned as such to the Grand Chapter, has always paid his dues, has acted and voted upon questions coming before the Chapter, but has never signed its by-laws.

Question : What is the Companion's present legal status? Is he a member of said Chapter, and can it vote him a dimit upon his application?

Answer : Having ascertained that there is no provision in the by-laws of this particular Chapter requiring a Companion exalted therein to sign the same in order to become a member thereof, and the General Regulations of the Grand Chapter and the constitution and by-laws of the General Grand Chapter being entirely silent as to what is necessary to be done to constitute membership of a Subordinate Chapter, it is my opinion, and I so decide, that a Companion exalted in said Royal Arch Chapter is a member thereof by virtue of his election and exaltation therein, and the Chapter may properly vote him a dimit.

Such I believe to be the common law of Masonry, and that a provision in the by-laws of any particular Chapter which requires a Companion to sign the same in order to become a member thereof, and to vote and hold office therein, is but local in its character and application.”

The good results attained by the division of the State into districts and the appointment of District Deputies warranted them in making the system permanent, and the State was accordingly divided into five districts, with a deputy for each, who is to visit and instruct all the Chapters and report annually, before the first day of May.

Comp. W. H. S. Whitcomb, who has been Grand Secretary

for seventeen years, declined a re-election, and a special vote of thanks was passed by the Grand Chapter on his retirement.

The report on correspondence is by Comp. Frederick S. Fisher, and it is very well written. We copy his remarks on the appellations by which the Deity is addressed in our rituals, with which we heartily agree :

“Masonic rituals are not infallible in taste and reverence. Certainly not when in any degree they lower our idea of the place and power of Deity, whom we should approach with all lowliness and implore as the Almighty, who weighs the sands and the mountains in his might. There are certain appellations, familiar and yet reverent, expressing love and awe in terms common and yet terms implying the highest respect. Thus, we call our Lord, Friend, Brother, Counselor. In which use we elevate these terms which in themselves signify something higher than our acts express,—elevate them in the name of the Lord, whose incarnation gives us this right to feel and speak. In them is seen no expression of compassion, nor in the most intimate title given God, given in the birth of our Lord, the appellation of Father. We do object to certain other titles which, instead of elevating our ideas towards God, rather bring down our idea of Deity to visible stations ; that is, titles of comparison,—as Supreme High Priest, a title which at once reminds of steps in comparison. Our idea of God should rise higher than this language allows, for it conveys to the mind the difference of station between High Priest, Grand High Priest, and Supreme High Priest, thus comparing with other stations the Incomparable. The term Supreme Architect has a more correct meaning, and is proper for the purely Masonic degrees ; for in Lodge and Chapter teachings, God is worshiped as the Master and Creator, the Fatherhood not yet taught in the full knowledge. And in the symbolism and with knowledge of our Chapter ritual teaching, no revelation has revealed God as our High Priest in the death on Calvary, when the veils of the True Tabernacle are opened in the sacrifice of the Eternal Son.”

Canada for 1886 receives a good notice.

His report covers eighty-four pages, but by a resolution of the Grand Chapter he is to be confined to fifty pages in future, which we think is a mistake, as the length of these reports depends on the number of important subjects that present themselves to be considered and to be commented upon, and no reviewer can do himself or the subjects full justice if his space is to be limited.

M. E. Comp. Marsh O. Perkins, (Windsor,) G.H.P.

R. E. Comp. Warren G. Reynolds, (Burlington,) G. S.

VIRGINIA.

Eightieth annual convocation, Staunton, Oct. 5th, 1887.

The Grand High Priest was not able to be present and his address was read by the Grand Secretary. The address is very brief. He reports one new Chapter.

The following resolutions were adopted :

“Resolved, That there be delivered a public address at the next Grand Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter, bearing on the special duties of Royal Arch Masons, showing the position which they occupy as a moral power in the Masonic Institution, and that a committee of three be appointed to select a suitable Companion to deliver the said address.” * *

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Virginia being advised that Lodge No. 4, at Fredericksburg, Va., in which our distinguished brother, General George Washington, was initiated, past and raised as a Master Mason, are without a suitable room for Masonic purposes, and are desirous of erecting a Masonic Temple in memory of our eminent deceased brother ; therefore be it—

Resolved, That this Grand Chapter doth most cordially approve and endorse the effort, and doth earnestly commend it to the liberality of the brotherhood not only in Virginia, but throughout the country. * *

“Resolved, 1, That so much of \$400, as may be necessary, be appropriated to pay the expenses, and \$3 per deim to the Grand Lecturer in visiting the subordinate Chapters in this Grand Jurisdiction, and instructing them in the Ritual.

Resolved, 2, That the voucher of the Grand Lecturer shall be an itemized account of expenditures, in going to, returning from, and attending any Subordinate Chapter, and embrace the name and the number of the Subordinate Chapter to which service is so rendered : and when the account is so rendered, the Grand Treasurer is hereby authorized to send his check in payment of said voucher ; *provided* the whole amount thus paid shall not exceed the sum of \$400.

Resolved, That the Grand Lecturer be requested to visit all the Subordinate Chapters during the current Masonic year, and instruct them in the Ritual.

Resolved, That the Committee-work of the Royal Arch Degree, as exemplified by the Grand Lecturer, M. Ex. W. H. H. Lynn, on last night, and also the work of the other degrees, as conferred by him, be confirmed as the work of this Grand Chapter, and that he be requested so to teach the Subordinate Chapters.”

The report on correspondence is by the Grand Secretary and our proceedings for 1887 are acknowledged.

M. E. Comp. S. J. Quinn, (Fredericksburgh,) G.H.P.

R. E. Comp. William B. Isaacs, (Richmond,) G. S.

WASHINGTON.

Third annual convocation, Vancouver, May 30th, 1887.

M. E. Comp. Andrew McCalley, G.H.P.

In opening his address, he says :

“At our last Annual Convocation the city of Vancouver was selected as the place for this Annual Convocation. Here upon this spot the first pioneers pitched their camps and for many long years laws were dispensed from this historic city, when there were but few white men, and those employed in the great Hudson Bay Company, many of whom were of the Royal Craft—they having received their degrees in their native land before embarking on their perilous journey, many of whom I knew well, good men and true and who loved the Royal art. They have nearly all passed away, and presented their work to the Grand Overseer. Let us hope that it proved to be good, true and square work. Then the aborigines had sole control of the country. They also are fast passing away, and where once stood the wigwam, now we have a Temple erected to the ever living God, and dedicated to the use of our mystic art, surpassed by none on the Pacific Coast.”

Two new Chapters were organized.

The following resolution was adopted :

“*Resolved*, That the subordinate Chapters of this Jurisdiction be permitted to take paid up stock in associations, for the purpose of building Masonic halls, when such associations are composed of Masons only.”

A motion was made to authorize all subordinate Chapters to become incorporated under the civil law. This motion was referred to the committee on jurisprudence, who reported thereon as follows :

“*Fourth*, That the question of the incorporation of subordinate Chapters, be considered as dangerous and in direct opposition to the sovereign powers of this Grand Chapter, and fraught with evil.

Your Committee desire to repeat the oft expressed dictum of the Fraternity, that Masonry is a law unto itself, and that Grand Bodies cannot, and must not, permit the laws of the commonwealth to come between them and their subordinates, so as to, in any degree, alienate the indisputable loyalty due to Grand Bodies from their subordinates.”

This report was postponed for consideration until the next convocation. We agree with the committee.

The Grand High Priest presented his credentials as the representative of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

The Grand Secretary presented a capital report on corres-

pondence. Our proceedings for 1886 receive full and kindly notice. In his review of Dakota, Comp. Reed has the following remarks on the issuance of dispensations :

"On this point we agree; and yet, while as strongly advocating strict obedience to and enforcement of the laws by all, from the highest in dignity to the humblest in rank, we yet recognize the virtue and necessity of *dispensations*. (This word *dispensation*, in the sense in which it is usually employed in Masonic parlance, is a misnomer. Such documents are either *ad interim* warrants or *enabling acts* issued by executive authority, not in violation of law, but in consonance with Constitutional provisions and time-honored usage). We recognize this power as properly vested in the chief executive officer to conserve the being and purposes of Masonry, and to promote its best interests in all those ways, means and exigencies which accord with well established Masonic usage, and for which specific and written law fails *distinctively* to provide. This power can and must be exercised without contempt or infraction of law, and without the usurpation of authority not contemplated by law. Constitutions or laws which fail to make provision in a clear and comprehensive sense to meet emergencies such as referred to, are indeed frail and impotent. Laws are worthless and fraudulent that are made with any view to their violation. Masons as well as all other good men must have respect for their obligations, and it is only when reason, justice and truth are dethroned in such observance that assumed obligations become nugatory. This is the light, briefly stated, in which we view this question. And it seems to us that every emergency calling for the exercise of authority can be met without violation of law or obligation, and the best and most salutary purposes of our Grand old Institution fully subserved."

M. E. Comp. Walter J. Thomson, (Tacoma,) G.H.P.

R. E. Comp. Thomas M. Reed, (Olympia,) G. S.

WISCONSIN.

Thirty-eighth annual convocation, Milwaukee, February 21st, 1888.

M. E. Comp. Norman C. Daniels, G.H.P.

Prosperity has attended this jurisdiction during the past year and a reasonable amount of work has been done.

A revised constitution was considered and adopted.

The report on correspondence is by Comp. William C. Swain, and he gives our proceedings of 1887 a good notice.

He believes that officers have the right to resign.

On public processions, he says :

"We favored public processions in our younger days, to a much greater extent than we do now. We have reached the age when we can't see where

the logic comes in, of testifying our approval of any event, by marching through the streets, especially when, as Comp. Pearson says, we follow in the wake of advertising vans and hired men."

He quotes the opinion of Comp. Varnum of Iowa, against the practice of requiring bonds from Masonic officers, and then adds :

"Which is very well put, but there is another side to the question. We say to a Companion : 'We think so highly of your honesty and fidelity, and feel so sure our money will be safe in your hands, that we elect you for our Treasurer.' After we have elected him, we say, 'we had confidence enough in you to elect you, but now, we won't trust you, unless you get some Companion, who has only a small personal interest, to agree to put up for you, if you get away with the money.' Is this consistent? And if he does prove dishonest, is it not better for the whole fraternity to stand the loss, than one or two individuals? Now, for an indemnity Company : Instead of being an insult, is it not simply saying : 'We have faith in you, but we know that our judgment is not infallible, and we will take the same precaution which we do when we insure our property. We do not expect it to burn up, but we will pay a percentage to provide against loss, in case it does.' We confess, we had thought so highly of the plan, that, until we read the experience of Michigan, we seriously thought of suggesting it to our own Grand Chapter."

M. E. Comp. Duncan McGregor, (Platteville,) G.H.P.

R. E. Comp. John W. Laffin, (Milwaukee,) G. S.

CALIFORNIA, 1888.

Thirty-fourth annual convocation. San Francisco, April 17th, 1888.

M. E. Comp. Michael James Keating, G.H.P.

The address is brief. His official acts were not numerous and harmony prevails. He visited several Chapters and was much pleased at their prosperous condition. He laments a lack of uniformity in the work and recommends the appointment of Grand Lecturers for each district.

The total membership is now 4,292, an increase of 1.12.

The report on correspondence appears in the body of the proceedings and not in an appendix. The author is the Grand Secretary, Comp. Thomas H. Caswell. Our proceedings for 1887 receive a very good notice. In his review of Illinois we find the following on public appearances :

"We regret to see the apparently growing sentiment in favor of public Masonic parades. Masonry is not an institution which needs, or desires, to

force itself upon public notice by parades or processions. There are occasions, strictly Masonic, when it is eminently proper that the Fraternity should appear in public with insignia of the Craft, and demonstrate to the world the sincerity of their professions and their regard for time-honored observances. Such occasions are : first, the the burial of a deceased brother ; second the laying of corner-stones of public edifices ; third, the dedication of Masonic halls ; and fourth, the celebration of the anniversary of St. John the Baptist and St. John the Evangelist. A public installation of Grand Officers may be permissible, but we are unqualifiedly opposed to all demonstrations of that character. It simply cheapens Masonry, and places it upon a level with the thousand and one imitations which have sprung up in modern times. Let us parade only on Masonic occasions, and thus maintain the dignity and ancient *exclusiveness* of the Craft."

We fully agree with the above, except that we do not allow the installations of our officers in public. That ceremony, is with us, as esoteric as the conferring of the degrees.

Under "Rhode Island," Comp. Caswell has the following judicious comments on the dispensing power. The Grand High Priest had issued a dispensation to communicate the essential portions of the R. A. degree to a brother who was about leaving home far a journey round the world, and Comp. Caswell says :

"As to the act of the Grand High Priest, in granting such a dispensation, so far as our knowledge extends, it has neither the sanction of law nor precedent. If the forms and ceremonies in one degree may be dispensed with to suit the convenience of a candidate, the same course may be pursued in another and another, until it will finally come to pass that, in order to confer any degree, it will only be necessary to administer the obligation, impart a few brief instructions, and turn the candidate loose as finished material ; 'good work, square work ; such work as we are authorized to receive,' etc.

The Grand High Priest evidently takes an enlarged view of the prerogative question, and does not hesitate at trifles. A bother *M. E.* Master takes into his head that he would like to enjoy a trip around the world ; he wishes to become a Royal Arch Mason before starting, in order that he may visit Chapters in various parts of the globe ; there is not time to take the degree in a legitimate and lawful manner ; what is to be done ? The brother is, perhaps, wealthy and influential ; it will not do to run counter to his wishes ; his convenience and desires must be consulted and gratified. His case is represented to the Grand High Priest and '*strongly supported.*' That functionary gets astride of his prerogative, and, trampling the laws and usages of the Craft under his feet, issues his imperial act of grace. which sends the inchoate companion forth into the world, a full fledged Royal Arch Mason. without knowledge sufficient to make himself known as such, or to explain how he became invested with the dignity he claims. We would be pleased to hear from the advocates of unconstitutional prerogatives upon this question."

The new Grand Chapter of New Brunswick was recognized.

A special committee is to formulate a plan for securing uniformity of work and report at next meeting.

M. E. Comp. W. T. Luther, (Downieville,) G.H.P.

R. E. Comp. T. H. Caswell, (San Francisco,) G. S.

CONNECTICUT, 1888.

Ninetieth annual convocation, Hartford, May 8th, 1888.

M. E. Comp. Reuben H. Tucker, G.H.P.

The address is a brief account of his official acts. The year was a very quiet one, harmony and good will having reigned supreme.

The constitution was amended and now provides that no Royal Arch Mason in that jurisdiction, of twenty one years' good and regular standing shall be subject to discipline for non-payment of dues. This is a meritorious and graceful concession to those members who have borne the burden and heat of the day and relieves them of any further money payments for membership.

Our friend and Companion, John H. Barlow, presents his eleventh report on correspondence, which is as excellent as usual. Canada for 1887 receives due notice.

Comp. Barlow has the following remarks on the Scottish Rite :

“A careful and impartial reading of its history does not make us very enthusiastic over Scottish masonry. Take the history of one of the so-called genuine bodies—the Northern Jurisdiction. Does not the impartial reader meet with many obstructions in tracing its genealogy, especially about the time of the consolidation of 1863 between the Supreme Council established by Joseph Cerneau (who in the report before us is styled an impostor, assuming unauthorized powers) and what was then known as the Raymond Council? The former then, it would seem, received full recognition; its name, title and regulations for a time were adopted, and its presiding officer retained at the head of the united body, while the Raymond Council seems to have been completely buried, though a few years later it was discovered that its death and burial was illegal, and *the body must be raised*, which was done at a summoned meeting, held in Boston in 1866. The previous consolidation was declared irregular, the Raymond Council revived, and the Cerneau thrown over among the rubbish. This Raymond body, after absorbing one or two others councils then in existence, becomes what is

known as the Northern Jurisdiction, which seems to us a mixture of Cerneau, Raymond, Van Rensselaer, and perhaps other Supreme Councils.

We present this scrap of history, not to espouse the cause of any of the so-called supreme bodies, but rather to suggest the thought, in view of their doubtful origin and almost constant quarrels,—are any of them worthy of special recognition from bodies of our York Rite—would it not be better to let them, as foreign bodies, fight it out on their own line, rather than disturb the harmony of our American system.”

M. E. Comp. A. E. Blakeslee, (Thomaston,) G.H.P.

R. E. Comp. J. K. Wheeler, (Hartford,) G. S.

CONCLUSION.

List of the proceedings reviewed in the foregoing report :

Alabama.....	1887	Mississippi.....	1887
Arkansas.....	1887	Missouri.....	1887
California.....	1887-8	Nevada.....	1887
Colorado.....	1887	Nebraska.....	1887
Connecticut . . .	1887-8	New Brunswick.....	1887
Dakota.....	1887	New Hampshire.....	1887
Delaware.....	1888	New Jersey.....	1887-8
District of Columbia.....	1887	New York.....	1888
England (Mark).....	1887	North Carolina.....	1887
Florida . . .	1887-8	Nova Scotia.....	1887
Illinois.....	1887	Ohio.....	1886
Indiana.....	1887	Oregon.....	1887
Iowa.....	1887	Pennsylvania.....	1886-7
Kansas.....	1887	Quebec.....	1888
Kentucky . . .	1887	Rhode Island.....	1887
Maine.....	1887	South Carolina.....	1887-8
Maryland.....	1887	Vermont.....	1887
Massachusetts.....	1887	Virginia . . .	1887
Michigan.....	1888	Washington.....	1887
Minnesota.....	1887	Wisconsin.....	1888

The proceedings which have not been received are as follows: Georgia, 1888; Louisiana, 1888; Tennessee, 1888; and Texas, 1887. West Virginia publishes biennially.

Total, 40 proceedings reviewed, 4 not received.

As we finish our task for the present, we may ask what practical conclusions can be drawn from the work we have performed. One lesson at least, may be learned and that is, that without energy and perseverance nothing great can be accomplished, and that as members of one common order, we are working for an institution whose welfare demands activity and energy in those who have been placed in official positions.

Private members also, have duties to perform. They should cultivate the principles symbolized in our ceremonies and let their acts and deeds show that these principles are not theirs in name only. As an influence for good and as an important factor in the general improvement of mankind, we can help Royal Arch Masonry to maintain its true position only by a strict adherence to the moral precepts inculcated in its lessons. By the individual fulfilment of this obvious duty we will strengthen the Order and add to its prestige.

It is the boast of our fraternity that we strive to demonstrate the superior excellence of faith we profess by the purity of our own conduct and by the good example we set forth to the world around us. We should be of mutual benefit to each other, but we cannot be injurious to others without violating laws and rules held sacred by the Order. We should unite with the virtuous of every persuasion in the firm and pleasing bond of fraternal love, we should regard a brother's misfortunes and help him to bear them. We should sympathize with him in his affliction, we should guard his good name as carefully as our own, never injuring him ourselves or suffering others to do so.

If we deal justly with ourselves and others, and live prudently and honorably under the changing circumstances of life, our Masonic building will be firm and durable, and we will be remembered by the Brotherhood as deserving of the highest title that can be obtained, that of a good and true Freemason.

All of which is Fraternally submitted.

HENRY ROBERTSON,
Chairman.

Collingwood, Ontario, Canada,
June 4th, 1888.

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